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The Hongkong Telegraph

WEATHER FORECAST
FAIR.
Barometer 30.30.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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January 13, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 54 2 p.m. 50
Humidity 50

January 13, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 57 2 p.m. 63
Humidity 67 66

7561 日十二月十

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1917.

六拜禮 號三十月一英曆 1917. SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS.
FOR ANNUAL.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE PEACE QUESTION.

The Allies' Answer to America.

January 11, 1055 p.m.

The Allied reply to President Wilson's note, after supporting the proposal to create a League of Nations to assure universal peace and justice, expresses the view that it is impossible at present to obtain a peace which would not only secure the reparation and restitution of guarantees that are due through the Central Empires having been guilty of an act of aggression, but would also enable the future of European nations to be established on a sure foundation.

The Allies regret, but disclaim responsibility, for the losses and suffering entailed on neutrals, as they in nowise provoked the war. They feel it their duty to challenge in the friendliest but the clearest way, the analogy drawn between the opposing belligerents, which directly conflicts with the evidence of history that has clearly established one fact; namely: calculated policy of aggression, whereby Austria and Germany sought to ensure the hegemony of Europe and universal economic domination.

By the declaration of war, the instant violation of Belgium and Luxembourg, and by her methods of warfare Germany proved that she systematically scorns every principle of humanity and respect due to small States.

The reply proceeds to set out a further series of enemy crimes and recalls the horrors marking the invasion of Belgium and Serbia, the atrocious treatment they are undergoing, the massacres of hundreds of thousands of inoffensive Armenians, the barbarities in Syria, Zepplin raids on open towns, the submarineing of liners and shipping, including that of neutrals, the cruel treatment of war prisoners, the judicial murders of Miss Cavell and Captain Fryatt, the deportation and enslavement of civil populations.

Such a catalogue of crimes explains the Allied protest at the analogy. The Allies do not find any difficulty in meeting President Wilson's request to state their war aims. These can only be formulated in detail, with all just compensations and indemnities for losses, when the moment of negotiation arrives, but it is well-known that they will include, primarily, and necessarily, the restoration of Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro; the evacuation of the invaded territory of France, Russia and Rumania; and the reorganisation of Europe on the right which all peoples have to the enjoyment of full security and free economic development; also upon territorial agreements and international arrangements framed to guarantee land and sea frontiers against unjust attacks.

The Allies also claim the restitution of provinces and territories formerly torn from the Allies forcibly, or contrary to the inhabitants' wishes; the liberation of Italian, Slav, Rumanian Czeches and Slovaks from foreign domination; the liberation of peoples lying beneath the murderous tyranny of the Turks; the expulsion from Europe of the Ottoman Empire, which has proved itself radically alien to Western civilisation; and the carrying out of the Tsar's intentions towards Poland, as shown in a proclamation just addressed to the armies.

The Allies disclaim any intention to exterminate or to politically extinguish the Germanic peoples, though wishing to rescue Europe from the brutal encroachments of Prussian militarism.

The reply concludes that the Allies are determined to endure every sacrifice in order to press to a victorious close a conflict upon which depends their own safety and prosperity and the very future of civilisation.

Germany's Arguments.

January 12, 3.40 p.m.

According to Reuter's correspondent at New York, Germany has sent a Note to neutrals relative to the Entente's reply offering peace. It says that the form of the reply excludes an answer, but Germany considers it important to express her opinion of the situation to neutrals, and declares that there is no reason to discuss the origin of the war, but appeals to the verdict of history.

Opinion on the Reply.

January 12, 6.15 a.m.

The Allies' reply to President Wilson is described as an impressive and historic document. The newspapers are of the opinion that its friendly and courteous tone, its close reasoning and its lofty ideals are bound to be approved by the American people, who will contrast the frank avowal of its objects with Germany's curt refusal to give President Wilson the information asked for.

RUSSIA'S NORTHERN THRUST.

Bulgarian General Leads Russian Forces.

January 12, 6.10 a.m.

A Petrograd message states that the Bulgarian General Doitrieff commands the Russians advancing on Mitau. Announcement of his capture of 21 heavy guns, 11 field guns and much stores led to an unprecedented demonstration in the streets of Petrograd.

Prisoners report that there was a panic in Mitau following an aeroplane bombardment.

Two Zepplins attacked Riga, but were driven off. One is reported to have been destroyed.

THE INVASION OF RUMANIA.

Enemy Thrown Back.

January 12, 3.45 p.m.

A Russian official message received by wireless states:—The enemy pressed us back shortly to the south of the Oltus River. The Rumanians repulsed an attack to the west of Monestirka and Krobinal, and threw back the enemy two versts southwards.

THE SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN.

January 12, 6.10 a.m.

The British steamers Hadworth and Kelvindale have been sunk.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE BRITISH WAR LOANS.

Completion of Text of Prospectus

London, January 11.

Further particulars of the War Loan Prospectus (the first part of which appears in our earlier telegram) are as follows:—

"Fully-paid allotments" will be issued in one or other of the following forms, as applicants may be directed:—(1) "Certificate of inscription" of stock transferable in the Stock Transfer Books; (2) "Register Certificate" of stock transferable by deed; (3) "Bond Certificate (S)" exchangeable in due course for bond (S) to bearer.

"Installment Allotments" will be issued in the form of "Allotment Letters", which may either be retained until they are fully-paid or may be exchanged for scrip certificates to bearer.

The instalments payable in respect of "Installment Allotments" may be paid in full on or after the 2nd March, 1917, under discount at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum. Where payment in full is made between two instalment dates, discount will be calculated as from the instalment date next succeeding the date of each full payment. In case of default in the payment of any instalment by its proper date, the deposit and any instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture. Arrangements have been made whereby holders of allotment letters will be able to make further payments without additional charge at offices of the principal banks throughout the United Kingdom.

Dividends due 15th April, 1917, and 1st June, 1917, in respect of allotment letters, bonds, certificates and scrip certificates will be paid by coupon.

Allotment letters and scrip certificates, if paid in full, may be exchanged for stock on or after the following dates:—viz, 25 per cent. War Loan 1929-1947, on or after the 2nd May, 1917; 24 per cent. War Loan 1929-1942, on or after the 13th March, 1917; or they may be retained to be exchanged for bonds to bearer as soon as these can be prepared.

Stock will be transferable in any sums which are multiples of a penny. Bonds to bearer will be issued in denominations of £50, £100, £200, £500, £1,000, and £5,000.

Conversion of £4 10s per cent. War Loan 1925-1945; 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds, due 5th October, 1919-1921; 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds, due 1st December, 1920; and 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds, due 16th February, 1920.

Holders of the above issues, in fulfilment of the options granted in the several prospectuses relating thereto, may convert their holdings in whole, or in part, as on the 16th February, 1917, and receive in lieu thereof 25 per cent. War Loan 1929-1947 and/or 24 per cent. War Loan 1929-1942 at the rate of £105. 5s. 3d. 25 per cent. War Loan 1929-1947 for each £100 converted; or £100. 0s. 0d. 24 per cent. War Loan 1929-1942 for each £100 converted.

Holders desiring to convert must give notice in the prescribed form to the Bank of England not later than the 16th February, 1917, but the actual conversion in the Bank's books will not be completed until Monday, the 2nd July, 1917. Between the 17th February, 1917, and the 30th June, 1917, inclusive, holdings to be converted will be unchanged as regards amount and description, except that holdings which are to be converted into 25 per cent. War Loan 1929-1947 will be designated "B" Stock and Bonds, and those to be converted into 24 per cent. War Loan 1929-1942 will be designated "C" Stock and Bonds. The first dividend on holdings to be converted will be as follows:—On the 1st June, 1917, £4.10s per cent. War Loan 1925-1945 "B," £2. 9s. 3d. per cent; on the 1st June, 1917, 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds 1919 and 1921 "B," £3. 7s. 0d. per cent; on the 1st June, 1917, 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds 1920 "B," £2. 11s. 4d. per cent; on the 1st June, 1917, 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds 1920 "B," £1. 10s. 3d. per cent; on the 15th April, 1917, 24.10s. per cent. War Loan 1925-1945 "C," £1. 11s. 8d. per cent; on the 15th April, 1917, 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds 1919 and 1921 "C," £2. 9s. 5d. per cent; on the 15th April, 1917, 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds 1920 "C," £1. 13s. 9d. per cent; on the 15th April, 1917, 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds 1920 "C," £0. 12s. 8d. per cent.

Note.—The above dividends represent interest accrued to the 16th February, 1917, upon the old holdings to be converted, together with interest from the 16th February, 1917, upon the new holdings, which will result from such conversion.

In the case of 25 per cent. Exchequer Bonds, 1921, issued after the 5th October, 1916, the dividends will be subject to a deduction in respect of the interval which elapsed between the 5th October, 1916, and the issue of the bonds.

Bearer bonds lodged for conversion will be exchanged for bond certificates for a corresponding holding on "B" or "C" Bonds, to which will be attached a coupon for the first dividend payable thereon. These certificates will be exchangeable for holdings of the new Loans on and after the 2nd July, 1917. Bonds lodged for conversion must be accompanied by all coupons due subsequent to the 16th February, 1917.

N.B.—Applications for the conversion of stock, inscribed or bonds, registered in the books of the Bank of Ireland should be forwarded to the Bank of Ireland, Dublin.

Stock registered in the books of the General Post Office, and bonds issued by the General Post Office, will not be convertible at the Bank of England. They will be convertible at the Post Office under the arrangements set forth in the separate prospectus issued by H. M. Postmaster-General.

Holdings of these issues do not carry any rights of conversion into any future issue that may be made by His Majesty's Government.

A Commission of one-eighth per cent. will be allowed to bankers, stockbrokers and financial houses on allotments made in respect of cash applications for this issue, bearing their stamp, whether paid for in actual cash or by the discounting of Treasury Bills or War Expenditure Certificates, but no commission will be allowed in respect of applications for conversion.

Application forms for cash applications (1) for "Fully-paid Allotments" and (2) for "Installment Allotments" may be obtained at the Bank of England and at the Bank of Ireland; at any Bank or Money Order Office in the United Kingdom; of Messrs Mullens, Marshall and Co., 13 George Street, Mansion House, E. C.; and of the principal stockbrokers.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE BRITISH WAR LOANS.

Application forms for conversion applications may be obtained:—1. For conversion of (a) holdings registered or inscribed in the books of the Bank of England, (b) bonds to bearer (at the Bank of England, London, E. C.); 2. For conversion of holdings registered or inscribed in the books of the Bank of Ireland (at the Bank of Ireland, Dublin).

Applicants for conversion application forms must state the description of holding which it is desired to convert.

The lists for both cash and conversion applications will be closed on Friday, the 16th February, 1917.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

11th January, 1917.

A Great Rush.

January 12, 1.25 p.m.

There was a great rush for the War Loan at the Bank of England in the early morning.

Hundreds of thousands of prospectuses were handed out in the first hour.

The Prudential Assurance Company applied for twenty millions sterling.

THE GREEK CRISIS.

Allied Demands Conditionally Conceded.

January 11, 11.00 p.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Athens states that the Greek reply to the Allies' ultimatum makes all the concessions accompanied by conditions, including the raising of the blockade.

Important Points Evaded.

January 12, 11.55 a.m.

The Greek reply to the Allies' ultimatum evades the demand for apologies to the Allied Ministers and the public salutes of the Allied flags, in connection with the events of December 1, and also ignores the demand for the removal of the officer responsible for the orders given on that date. Furthermore, the release of those arrested is not dealt with in accordance with the spirit of the Allied demand for immediate liberation.

Not Sufficiently Precise.

January 12, 3.00 p.m.

Reuter announces that the Allies consider that the Greek reply is insufficiently precise. The Greek Government will be told that the reply gives pleasure so far as it goes, but a more definite acquiescence is necessary. The Allies do not intend to raise the blockade until their full demands have been conceded. The Allies' representatives remain at Athens.

FOOD REGULATIONS.

January 12, 8.10 a.m.

Lord Devonport, Food Controller, has ordered that a larger proportion of flour be extracted from wheat, so that the minimum of barley, maize, rice, and other cereals, be used in the making of bread. He has also ordered that the maximum prices for sweet potatoes.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Another Successful British Push.

January 12, 12.30 a.m.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, says:—We captured three-quarters of a mile of trench north-east of Beaumont Hamel and took 176 prisoners. A counter-attack was broken up. There were successful raids to the east of Armentieres, north-east of Ypres, and two in the neighbourhood of Grandcourt.

New Trench-Raiding Departure.

January 12, 5.30 a.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters says the fighting on Wednesday and Thursday near Beaumont Hamel provided an interesting departure in trench-raiding, which aimed at the mastery of positions and damaging the morale of the enemy, who was expecting of a respite, owing to the bad weather. This resulted in depriving enemy observation of a large area of our position and in the capture of three hundred Bavarian and Prussian prisoners. Whirlwind bombardments preceded the infantry advances.

A FALSE ALARM.

Paris Prepares for Zeppelin Visit.

January 12, 4.25 a.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Paris says that on reports from the front that enemy Zeppelins and aeroplanes were proceeding south, bugles sounded the alarm and the lights of Paris were extinguished at seven o'clock in the evening, but the end of the alarm was signalled at eight o'clock, when it was found that the Zeppelins were not appearing.

RUSSIA'S NEW PREMIER.

January 12, 3.40 a.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says that the new Premier is Prince Nicholas Golitsin, of the Extreme Right, and not his distant relative Prince Alexander Golitsin, who spoke at the Council of Empire on December 12, denouncing the dark forces in Russia.

(Continued on page 8).

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

OBITUARY.

Count de Benckendorff.

London, Received, Jan. 11.

The death is announced of Count de Benckendorff, the Russian Ambassador in London.

[The deceased Count had represented Russia in London since 1903. He was born in Berlin on August 1, 1849, and was educated in France and Germany. He entered the diplomatic service in 1869, left it in 1876, and re-entered it as 1st Secretary at Vienna ten years later. From 1897 to 1903 he was Russian Minister at Copenhagen.]

THE RAIDING SEASON.

Failure of German Methods.

British Headquarters, Dec. 1. —This seems to be the raiding season. During the past few days the Germans have attempted more than one marauding expedition into our lines and have been paid back in their own coin with the generous interest which we usually give them in this particular kind of warfare. For raids are essentially a matter for individual genius and daring and not for machine-like routine, and in "individual" soldiering of all kinds the Briton has always proved a better man than the Boche.

The German raids have for the most part one purpose, that of identifying the units against him. An order was issued to the German troops saying that it was essential that British prisoners should be captured and suggesting that British patrols should not be shot at, but were to be allowed to come close to the German lines and were then to be pounced upon and taken alive, so that it might be ascertained to what regiment they belonged. The order ended with the words, "unless prisoners are captured soon more extensive operations against the enemy's positions will have to be undertaken." A third, "in short, that unless the Germans could capture prisoners near their own trenches they would be sent to the British trenches to look for them. The steps suggested were not very successful and the raids of the past few days have been the promised sequel.

The Germans' favourite method of raiding just now is to concentrate the aim of a number of guns and trench mortars upon one particular length of our barbed wire and to fire all their guns at once. A breach is thus suddenly made in the wire and through it they stream in the hope of getting into our trenches before our men are ready for them. There is a German unimaginedness about this method, and in practice it proves an expensive way of working. For our men, knowing just what to expect, prepare in good time the antidote, and many a German raiding party that has come to get prisoners and shoulder badges for identification purposes has instead left behind samples of the very things they came to get, and has thereby saved our troops the trouble of a raid on the German lines.—Reuter's Special.

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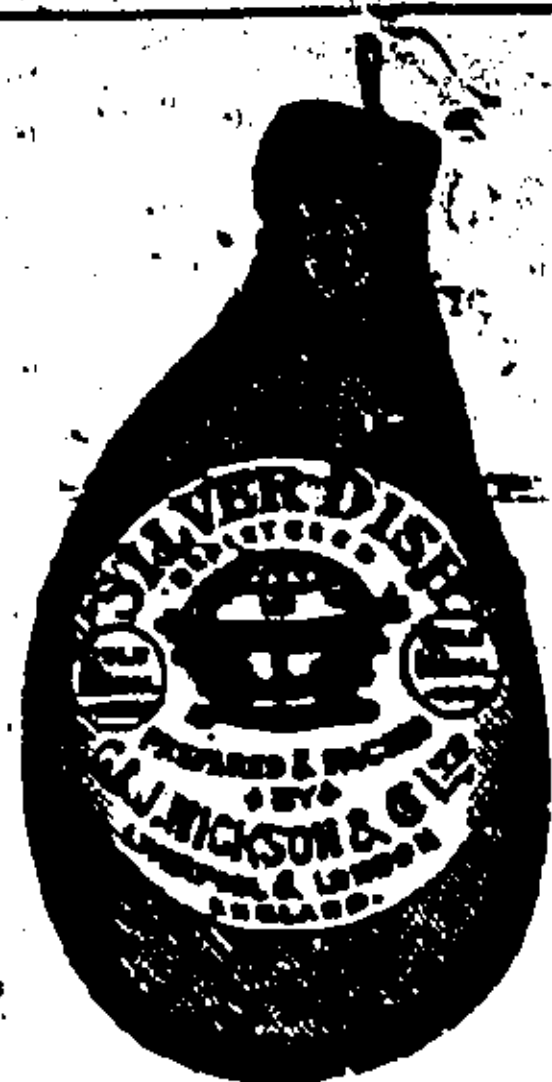
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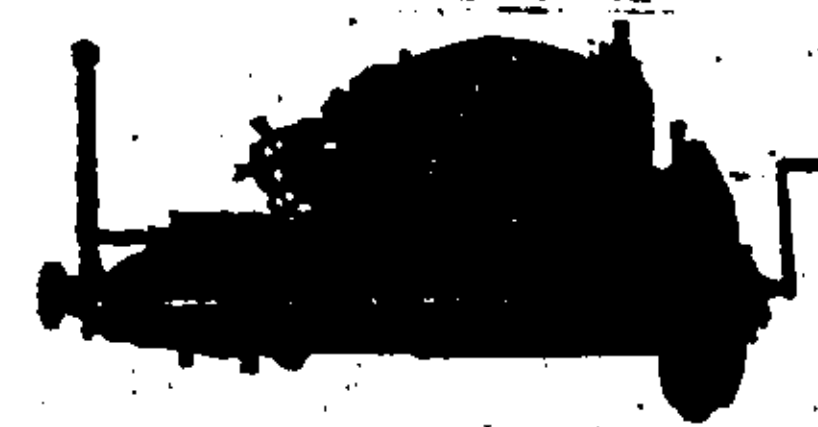
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NOTICES

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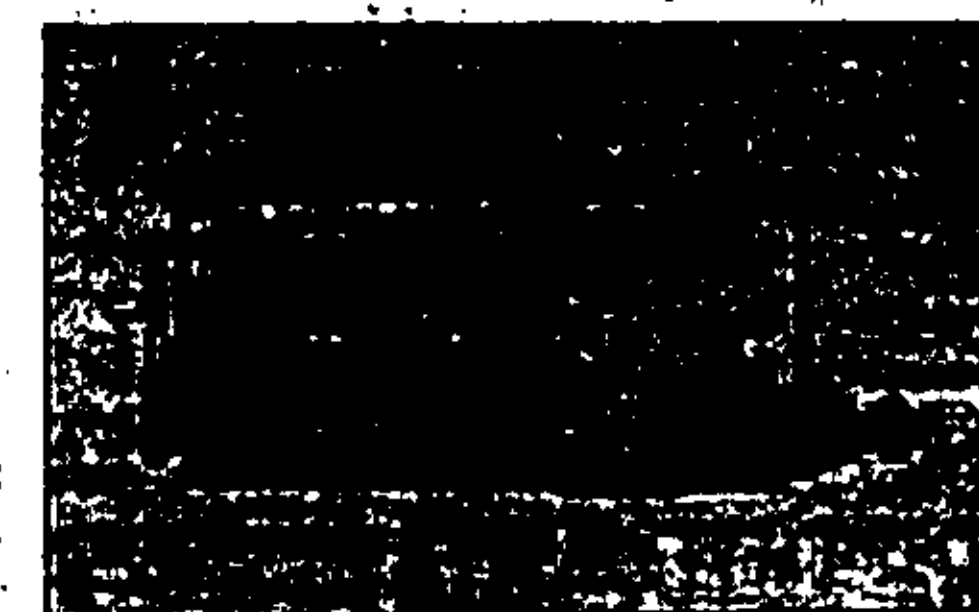
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GENERAL NEWS.

Railway Collision in Shantung.

A railway accident is reported
from Shantung where the railway
is under Japanese control. At 7
o'clock on the morning of
Christmas Day a collision be-
tween up and down trains oc-
curred at Nanliu station on the
Shantung railway. Two loco-
motives and 17 carriages were
involved and the railway track to
the extent of two miles damaged. It
is expected that it will take at
least three days to restore the line
to its former condition.

More About Anthrax in Shaving
Brushes.

A warning to the public against
purchasing two types of shaving
brushes, which have been found
to be infected with anthrax, has
been issued by the Public Health
Committee of Liverpool.

One of the brushes has a plain,
black wooden handle, and the
other has a white metal handle
with a small mirror at the top.
The brushes were purchased
somewhere on the Continent, and
the chairman of the committee
suggested that this might be
another of the enemy's "devilish
devices." Brushes similarly in-
fected have been found in London.

"Tanks" To the Rescue.

How three "tanks" came to the
rescue of the New Zealand Rifle
Battalion in their advance on Hare-
last month is described by Mr.
Malcolm Ross, the War Corres-
pondent, in an article issued by
Sir Thomas Mackenzie, the High
Commissioner. "The Flare line
consisted of a fire and a support
trench, both heavily protected by
barbed wire. On the right some
of the wire remained unbroken,
and the German machine gunners
got to work and held up our men.
At this juncture, most opportu-
nely, three of the "tanks" arrived.
One, peppered by rifle and
machine-gun fire, sidled steadily
off to the left, another crunched
through the wire and on to silence
the machine guns protecting Flare
Trench. Some riflemen were then
able to get into the trench, where
a hundred prisoners were quickly
gathered in.

The Plague in Burma.

There was again a decrease in
the mortality from plague in
Burma, from 170 deaths in
October to 106 deaths in the
month of November. The figure
is lower than that recorded for
the corresponding month of the
three preceding years. Decreased
mortality was reported in 8
localities, the largest decreases
being 18 in Rangoon Town, and
18 in the Tharawaddy District.
Only two districts reported an
increase, v. n., Prome District
with an increase of 10, and
Kyanbo District an increase of 3.
The Districts of Pagan, Myana-
gaye, Amherst and Mandalay,
which were infected in the pre-
ceding month, remained un-
infected during the month of
November. Magway, Yamethin and
Insein Districts, which were free
last month, reported three deaths
in the first case, and one each in
the case of the other two during
the month under report.

Killed by a War Trophy.

A Southwark Coroner's jury
recently suggested that the pen-
alty for bringing home explosives
from the front should be made
much heavier. An inquest was
held on Dorothy May Collins, the
eight-year-old daughter of a
Devonport electrician. While play-
ing with a German shell-fuse she
dropped it, and it exploded. Two
other children were also injured,
and one is still in hospital. The
fuse was brought home in Novem-
ber, 1916, by a gunner in the
Royal Field Artillery. Later it had
been lying in the garden, and it was
forgotten until found by the
children. Major Cooper-Key, chief
inspector of explosives, said that
in February of this year he ex-
amined 3,500 war trophies which
had been sent home from the front
by post. A colleague who under-
took the task was injured by an
explosion. It had been made a
criminal offence to send or bring
explosives from the front, and a
fine of 2s. per pound of explosive
could be imposed. One pound
of explosive was sufficient to
kill a person. Death by misad-
venture was the verdict.



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Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1917.

PEACE IN 1917.

The new Prime Minister made a number of striking remarks in his Guildhall speech: remarks that are quite certain to find an abiding place in the national memory. Chief among these, obviously, is: "Our duty will continue to be to struggle against the enemy, despite all the difficulties; while, with proper support, our gallant armies will clear the road to victory in 1917." Mr. Lloyd George is an excitable man, and has been known ever since he was carried away by his enthusiasm as to give public utterance to sentiments, assertions and prophecies which he and his friends very quickly wished unsaid. But that was the Mr. Lloyd George of some years ago. He of to-day has invariably been reticent in his war statements, even though these have lost none of their old compelling power; and throughout the campaign he has shown himself no friend to rash promises and forecasts. Within the last month he has been appointed to what one may well describe as the most difficult office in the whole world. He is on his trial before the nations: hostile, friendly and neutral; and none will watch him with a more critical eye than the men of his own household. Under these exceptional circumstances it hardly seems thinkable that he would commit himself to what almost amounts to a definite promise, unless he had absolute certainty at his back.

Most of us, as goes almost without saying, have become so much accustomed to seeing the hopes of peace "this time next year" dashed by some circumstances not foreseen (and that should have been foreseen!) that it takes more than German peace-feelers, more than Wilsonian Notes—say, and more than a Prime Minister's speech, to shake us quite out of the habit of regarding the war as likely to last a long and indefinite time. If peace is to come soon, we argue, it must be one that is almost as discreditable to us of the Allied countries as defeat. Of course, in many respects, this is undoubtedly the right frame of mind to cultivate, for it makes for a serious appreciation of the dangers and difficulties that lie ahead, just as the easy optimism of a couple of years ago made for unpreparedness and neglect of duty. But Mr. Lloyd George's latest pronouncement should surely teach us that there is a perfectly sound middle way between these two extremes. If we cannot win the war in 1917, what have our munition-makers been doing all this while? What have the ships entrusted with blockade duty been occupied with? The three principal Allies have been fighting for well nigh thirty months. If, after that, victory is to be regarded as an impossibility within another eleven or twelve, to what use have the Powers been putting all their experience, man-power, ammunition, and money?

Peace is possible within the present year, or Mr. Lloyd George would never have dared to tell the world so. But he gives us clearly to understand upon what terms we can look to grasp it. "With proper support"! No one is now ignorant of the fact that, had the army and navy had at their backs a Government capable of marking out a stern and decided line and sticking to it, Germany would, in all human probability, have been beaten to a mash by this time. Up till now we have had a Ministry that considered the convenience and the good opinion of neutral nations before the life of the Empire; the consequences naturally being that opportunity after opportunity of dealing some heavy blows at our enemy has been lost. We put the affairs of Britain into the hands of men who could not properly control them even in peace time and who, in war, made themselves the butt of the world. What wonder then, that our blockade has been but half-effective? What wonder that the Hun sneers at our soft-heartedness and remains comfortably under the impression that we are afraid to punish spies, traitors and pirates as they should be punished? But a new regime is beginning, and the man who has made this astounding promise of victory is the man chosen, as one might say, by the unanimous consent of the Empire, to be at the head of it. The people have given him their confidence; let them now follow his suggestion and entrust their money to him in addition, and all will be well.

Hongkong and Small-pox.

All things considered, Hongkong is certainly coming through its small-pox ordeal in a creditable manner. Allowing for the amount of overcrowding that exists in the native quarters of the city, and for other odds and ends which must needs be taken into account whenever we speak or think of Hongkong, the number of cases cannot be called excessive. It is a very healthy sign, too, that the Chinese are taking kindly to vaccination; some indeed are so eager for the operation that the vaccinators almost need a body-guard. This is a good opportunity to mention the splendid work done by the Chinese H.K.P.R. and St. John Ambulance men. No better proof of the need that existed for such corps could be afforded than the manner in which these young fellows have acquitted themselves during the epidemic. Thousands of vaccination cases have passed through their hands, and the work has been done with the most cheerful readiness, often at some amount of personal sacrifice, and, as everyone is aware, without any remuneration whatever. Volunteering of this kind is what the Colony wants—and the more the merrier.

Dumping and Failure to Notify.

But one cannot quite so unreservedly congratulate the Government on its share in dealing with the outbreak. The Sanitary Department, by way of an experiment, has certainly endeavoured to do some good work, but neither it nor the Police seems to have had sufficient backing from the Bench. These two breaches of the law so serious just now—dumping and failing to notify—are regarded in much too casual a manner by our Police Court. A fine of five and twenty dollars when imposed on a Chinese of the coolie class is, we agree, a heavy sentence as regards actual cost, but it is an extremely light one by comparison with the offence for which it is levied. Ignorance of the law can no longer be pleaded by the Chinese, save in very occasional cases, for, to do the Government justice, we believe that every effort has been made to keep all classes of their properly informed as to their duty in these respects. By the present system of fines, the dumping of corpses, and still more the failure to give notice of cases of contagious disease, will never be stamped out. The Chinese are, in many ways, the most kind-hearted and most charitable folk under the sun; but in certain other directions they have more brutal disregard for the comfort, safety and general well-being of their neighbours than any race with which we have ever come in contact. People who conceal a small-pox case merely to save themselves some little inconvenience, well knowing that such concealment may mean death for a number of innocent people, will never be taught decent consideration by means of fines.

OPIUM SMOKING.

Compared to Whisky-Drinking.

Before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court this morning, a Chinese was charged with keeping an opium den at 21, Square Street. Nine other men were charged with frequenting.

An informer said that when he went to the place all the men were smoking, and there was all the paraphernalia of a smoking den.

When the case had been on for some time, Mr. E.J. Grist appeared and announced that he was appearing for the first defendant. He said these people were very poor, and although defendant undoubtedly pleaded guilty, yet he was an old man, and there were very few jobs for him to do. These people had very little money and could not afford to set themselves up with smoking utensils. It was therefore very convenient if they could drop in somewhere and have a smoke. They might as well try to stop a European from dropping into an hotel for a whisky and soda. The two things were no different. They would find it a hardship if their whisky and soda were stopped. Speaking for himself, he knew he would.

His Worship inflicted a fine of \$25 on the first defendant and \$10 on each of the rest.

DAY BY DAY.

A MAN WITH A STRONG WON'T ACCOMPLISHES AS MUCH AS A MAN WITH A STRONG WILL.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 3.13/16d.

To-morrow's Anniversary. To-morrow is the birthday of the Marquis of Lansdown, who was born in 1845.

Struck Off.

It is notified that the name of the Kang Wo Cheong Company, Limited, has been struck off the Register.

General Holiday.

It is notified that His Excellency the Governor in Council has appointed Wednesday, January 24, 1917, to be observed as a General Holiday.

Chinese Calendar.

We have received from Messrs. Butterfield and Swire an exceptionally pretty and artistic Chinese calendar, advertising the various insurance companies for which they are agents.

Kailan Output.

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending December 30, amounted to 63,411 tons and the sales during the period, to 43,086 tons.

Dog Licences.

It is notified that licences to keep dogs were due for renewal on the first day of January. All persons owning dogs who have not yet obtained licences are advised to do so as soon as possible.

The New British War Loan.

The text of the new British War Loan prospectus, which is given in our telegram to-day, has been circulated free of charge all over the Empire by the Eastern and Associated Telegraph Companies.

December Weather.

The average temperature during the month of December was 62.8, the lowest point reached being 50.4 on the 1st, and the highest 73.9 on the 18th. There was only 0.50 inch of rain, and there were 29 hours of sunshine. The average humidity was 60.

Watchman's Opium.

Yesterday an Indian Watchman found a district Watchman going on the s.s. Paul Beau, and on searching him he found he had in his possession eight tins of prepared opium. The man was charged with the offence before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court this morning, and, on the application of Inspector Kent, a remand was ordered.

Ear Sliced Off.

Mr. C. D. Melbourne to-day ordered another remand in the case in which a Chinese is charged with doing grievous bodily harm to another man on a ship. Mr. Hayward appeared for complainant, and Mr. Davidson represented defendant. It is alleged that defendant attacked the other man, who is not yet out of hospital, and severed his right ear completely with a knife, in addition to inflicting a serious wound in the neck.

GERMAN PRISONERS IN JAPAN.

Surprise Examination at Osaka.

A report that some of the German prisoners interned in the camp at Kizugawa, Osaka, were in possession of arms and ammunition having reached the military authorities, Major Sigmund, who is in charge of the camp, carried out a surprise examination of the prisoners on Christmas Day. All the 500 men were ordered out of the camp buildings and their persons carefully searched, while a party of soldiers, under the command of an officer, made a search among the personal effects of the prisoners.

The search failed to disclose any arms, though some ammunition was found and seized. In the course of the search under the ceilings a pair of field-glasses were discovered, placed in holes made for the purpose of making observations of ships out at sea. The camp authorities are conducting further investigations with regard to the ownership of the articles discovered, and the manner of their being brought into camp.—Japan Chronicle.

WAR CHARITIES COMMITTEE.

A Review of the Work to Date.

A meeting of the War Charities Committee was held in the Council Chamber yesterday, over which His Excellency the Governor presided, there being a good attendance of members present. The business of the committee was to receive a report from the chairman of the Executive Committee, Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., on the general allocations the Committee has made since its inception and to hear an appeal by His Excellency the Governor for a more regular system of monthly subscriptions.

The Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, the Secretary, first read the minutes of the previous meeting following which,

The Hon. Mr. Sharp said the only matter which the Executive Committee had to report arising from the business of the previous meeting was the matter of the celebration of the Red Cross Day. He thought it was quite unnecessary to say anything about that now, for they all knew that the total receipts on that day were something over \$41,000 which enabled the Executive Committee after paying all expenses with the aid of a trifling sum from the general fund of the Committee to send home \$5,000, which he thought was a very good result of the "Our Day" effort. The War Charities Committee had now been operating for nearly a year and their principle allocations had been made in the following directions. The Ladies' Working Parties in the Colony had cost monthly for the materials used by the ladies something over \$3,000, that sum he thought was steadily increasing and the limits to which it would eventually reach no one could tell. They had been very much helped by the shipping companies which had shipped the work of the ladies home either absolutely free or at a very much reduced price, and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire had sent home the last consignment for no charge at all. The letters and acknowledgments from Home and the front which had been published in the local newspapers would have shown the members how necessary those contributions were. The next item he referred to was the Star and Garter Fund. They had undertaken the endowment of a ward in the hospital and for that purpose had sent \$2,000 which they understood was enough. That was not exactly correct and another \$250 was required which they had sent. That ward was called in perpetuity the Hongkong Ward and they had certain rights with regard to it in favour of anybody being incapacitated. The next object was the Royal Flying Corps Hospital in London. That hospital was doing an excellent work and last June they offered \$10,000 a year for a two fold purpose in connection with the hospital. The first was for the maintaining of a Hongkong Ward in the existing hospital and the second object was to maintain a proposed Hongkong extension, for it was thought at that time the London Committee would establish one immediately. The first object they had supported ever since and he thought some allusion was made at the last meeting of the Committee that the hospital authorities had had some difficulty in finding suitable premises for the proposed extension. It was felt by the Executive Committee that as time was passing and nothing definite being done it would be wise to communicate with their representatives on the London Committee, Mr. Murray Stewart and Dr. Atkinson to the effect that unless that extension was made within a reasonable time it would be better to divert the money to a more immediately useful object, if the Royal Flying Corps Committee could not satisfactorily arrange for the Hongkong extension within two months. That was at the beginning of September and after the two months had expired the proposal came from the London Committee itself that they would accept the \$200 per month for the ward in the existing hospital and drop the idea of the proposed extension. He thought that considering the time no better decision could have been come to. The existing hospital was doing a very excellent and satisfactory work in its Hongkong Ward and now the Committee here had the \$10,000 a year not spent on the extension at its disposal for other charities. As a matter of fact they had allocated that balance to the Prisoners of War Fund, the Blind Soldiers and

Sailors Fund and other excellent funds of a like character. The Hongkong Jockey Club had earmarked its contribution of \$36,000 from the last race meeting for the Royal Flying Corps Hospital and they had consented to the diverting of a portion of the contribution to other objects. The next charity was the Prisoners of War Fund which sent parcels of food to the prisoners of war in Germany. They left it to their London representatives to choose the particular channels and organisations through which those parcels should be sent and thus avoid the danger of sending too many parcels to popular regiments and the overlooking of less popular ones. There was an organisation in Berna which very quickly and satisfactorily dealt with those things and they had made arrangements with the society. Over ninety per cent. of the parcels sent were acknowledged and they arrived in a specially good condition because of the close proximity of the place from which they were despatched.

His Excellency (interposing) said he was in receipt of a communication which showed that the whole of this relief was centered in one organisation in London.

Continuing, Mr. Sharp said no charity was more immediately and urgently needed than this particular one. They had lately allocated \$1,000 to this work making \$15,000 sent in all to that object. In regard to the soldiers and sailors blinded in the war there was a general organisation in London which covered the various efforts on behalf of those unfortunate people. Perhaps the best organisation was the St. Dunstan's Hostel, founded by Sir Arthur Pearson, who himself was blind, and who therefore dealt with the matter in the most sympathetic way. He had received from Sir Arthur a letter acknowledging their donation of \$500 in which he expressed his thanks, also stating that there had been a memorial tablet erected in commemoration of Hongkong's gift. He did not know what would happen with regard to their later donation of \$1,000.

Referring to the Officers' Families' Fund, which he said was an excellent organisation, the Executive Committee had lately sent a further \$1,000 making a total contribution for the year of \$20,000.

With regard to the Dreadnaught Hospital at Greenwich that was an ideal institution founded in the time of King George IV which had been very much enlarged during the war. That hospital was specially recommended to them. It took in men not only from the Navy but also from the Mercantile Marine; men who were doing good but dangerous work in mine sweeping and laying. They had sent that institution \$500. With regard to Belgian Relief the Executive Committee had allocated \$500 for that object and had given discretion to their London representatives to support Belgian Relief organisations in Britain or Belgium as they thought best. There were other smaller charities which they had supported and recently the General Committee was circulated for permission to send to their London representatives a sum of money which should be used at their discretion amongst smaller charities. It was very difficult here to know about small charities, and correspondence wasted much valuable time and telegraphing was most costly. There was such a society as the Surgical Requisites Society which supplied artificial limbs for soldiers, which, whilst not asking for large subscriptions, was glad of small ones. It was to benefit such societies that Mr. Stewart and Dr. Atkinson had been sent \$1,000 to be divided as they thought best. The funds in hand up to a few days ago were about \$38,000 in Hongkong and \$2,500 in England. That large Hongkong balance was mainly due to a series of very excellent theatrical performances got up by the Chinese members of the Committee which realised nearly \$20,000 for which they were very grateful. The Executive Committee felt it right to get rid of that money and they had already allocated it amongst the charities he had already indicated. The result was that after paying a few outstanding bills in connection with the ladies' working parties they about \$15,000 in hand. They were therefore now in need of more money especially monthly subscriptions. As he was dealing with figures he might mention that the monthly subscriptions at the present time did not amount to their monthly disbursements for the working parties.

The only other thing he had to mention was that the Hon. Mr. C. E. Atkinson had joined the Committee in place of Mr. David Laidlaw and

THE BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS.

The Bishop of Victoria's engagements for next week include:—

Sunday 14.—Preach at St. Paul's Chinese Church at 11 a.m.
Monday 15.—Chinese Church Body at 8 p.m.

Tuesday 16.—Preside at St. Paul's Girls' School prize-giving at 12 o'clock. Lecture at the Helena May Institute on the History of the English Bible, at 5.30 p.m.

Wednesday 17.—Preside at the Diocesan Boys' School Prize giving at 12 o'clock.

Thursday 18.—Preside at the Diocesan Girls' School prize-giving at 11 a.m.

Friday 19.—Preside at St. Stephen's Girls' College prize-giving at 3 o'clock.

that Dr. Marriott had consented to serve during the absence on leave of Dr. Harston.

H. E. the Governor said: The details given by the chairman of the Executive Committee constituted striking evidence of the generosity of the community in subscribing to War Charities, but I wish to refer to some faults in the organisation through which we raise subscriptions. Monthly subscribers are obviously the most desirable source of revenue for they enable subscribers to know just where they are, and give the committees a steady working basis. Chinese prefer other methods and do well with them, but if the Europeans here make monthly subscriptions in accordance with their means, however small, our total income would be very materially increased. At present monthly subscriptions average rather under \$2500 and are short of even the local working party expenditure which is well over \$3000 a month. The monthly subscriptions etc. reach a very much larger sum. It cannot be expected that a proper monthly subscription system can be established if people live in fear of constant spasmodic extra calls on their purse and such calls would necessarily have to be reduced to a minimum. They cannot be ruled out entirely; for instance, the "Our Day" effort looks like becoming an annual affair and there must be other small exceptions also. But if the community shows any desire to take up the monthly subscription system it will be the duty of the Committee to endeavour to see that they are protected as far as may be from other calls.

There seems no reason why the monthly subscription system should not be extended to the mercantile firms, and indeed it appears that there is every reason why it should be so extended. It might well take the form of a proportion of what they would be prepared to give as donations and of what there is reason to believe they are only waiting an opportunity to give. No better opportunity is likely to occur. We now want an assured monthly income to be put on a more stable basis and therefore, probably, on a larger basis, which would make it unnecessary to make any further special appeals for some time. We know the charitable organisations which command the sympathy of everybody; to these we have already subscribed and desire to subscribe more largely. We prefer fixed monthly subscriptions, but if there are any who do not wish to bind themselves to such they need not promise a definite amount. We shall be glad to receive monthly what they can spare so long as they can spare it. I need hardly add that fixed monthly subscribers can alter or withdraw their subscriptions at any time.

There is one other point which I referred to on the day that I first established this Committee, and that is that none of us should allow our charity to interfere with our financial assistance to the Imperial Government by way of investments in the various forms of war loans and War Savings Certificates which are offered to us. These funds have been advertised by the Government weekly for some months past now and the response has been large. I believe how much one cannot tell without reference to the banks. But I want to emphasise as both the Government and the Imperial Government because by our subscriptions to the various charities we relieve a great deal of the Government's financial responsibilities, both in terms of assistance and in terms of the cost of the war.

1892.

HONGKONG TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

(Compiled from the "Hongkong Telegraph" files for the week ending January 13, 1892.)

The Dollar.

January 13.—"The rate of the dollar on demand to-day is 3/04."

Mr. Mitchell Jones.

January 11.—"Our ubiquitous Colonial Treasurer, Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Jones, the *Daily Press* learns, is shortly going home. It is to be hoped the report is true and that he is going for good. If it isn't a final farewell, we trust the Unofficial Members will have something to say on the matter. Running away from the tremendous Opium Farm fiasco which is primarily due to his pretensions ignorance, we suppose! But on this important fiscal question, whether he is at home or in Hongkong, Mr. Mitchell-Jones can rest assured that he will have to face the music of a very powerful brass band."

Great Fire—\$80,000 Damage.

January 11.—"On Saturday morning a slight fire occurred in the block of buildings occupied by Messrs. S. J. David and Co., Reuter, Brockelmann and Co., Panjom Mining Co., and Mr. Lemm, architect, at the corner of Ice House Street and Queen's Road. It is discovered that a beam was smouldering, having apparently been ignited by the overheating of a stove. Whatever be the cause, a small fire broke out and the office coolie was directed to throw a glassful of water on it. This done, the police, Government officials, and others were called in to survey the premises, certify that everything was right, and pronounce the building free from danger. In the face of this official declaration, the fire ought to have considered itself squashed, and had no right to make any further fuss. But it "lay low," biding its time, and as soon as everybody was asleep on Saturday night it began again, having a clear course and the whole building to itself. About five o'clock on Sunday morning it was well under weigh, and first announced itself to Mr. John Lemm, who was sleeping in his rooms next the office. The alarm was at once given, and all the inmates of the building hurriedly escaped. By some time before six o'clock, the flames were already through the roof, and the whole upper portion of the building was soon demolished. Most of Messrs. David's books were saved, at great risk and only just in time; but in the other offices, which were nearer the original centre of the fire, were many important books and documents which could not be saved. The Panjom Company's share transfer books (we are informed) have all gone; many Masonic records which were in Mr. Gourdin's keeping have perished; some of Mr. Lemm's books and papers were saved, but not all. By the time the police received information of the fire, the glare was already visible from the Central Station. The police appeared on the scene with all despatch, and managed to save the ground floor from fire; but the upper part of the whole block was completely gutted. In the basement, which was used as a godown, Messrs. David and Co. had a very large and valuable stock of cotton yarns, opium, wines, and other merchandise, which is almost all ruined by water. By eight o'clock on Sunday morning all trace of fire was gone. Immediately steps were taken to prevent the walls falling, for the large building had been reduced to a mere skeleton of thick stone walls. The Ice House Street front had all to be shored up, a work which was executed with commendable promptitude and efficiency. A rough estimate of damage puts down the building itself (all insured) at \$50,000; goods in godown, damaged by water (insured) \$5,000; office fittings, etc. (uninsured) \$6,000; and papers lost (uninsured) \$20,000. Of course, it is difficult to

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

Matriculation and Local Examinations, December, 1916.

The list of successful candidates is as follows:—

Matriculation.

Honours

Chan K'au P.,
Sung Ziu Yuen, Medhurst College, Shanghai.

Pass.

Lai San Lu.
*Ang Swee Cheng.
Lam Mun Yoke.
*Jheah Tuen Lok.
*Wu Yee Tak.
*Yong Loo Lin.
Wu Sze In.
Cheung Lai K'ng, Queen's College.
*Ahmed Osman Madar, Queen's College.
*Carlos Francisco da Raza, St. Joseph's College.
Allan Augustus Chenalloy.
Antoine George Ripsakie, Diocesan Boys' School.
Ernest Baker, Diocesan Boys' School.
*Teh Yik Choe.
*D. Kuzarsamy.
Fan Teh Pu.
Shih Wei Hui.
Hsu Pin Yuen, Griffith John College, Hankow;
Woo Kyi Ming, Medhurst College, Shanghai;
*Not eligible to enter the Faculty of Medicine.

Senior Local For Boys.

Tung Chee Cheong.
Ng Ka Wing, St. Paul's College, with Distinction in Arithmetic and Mathematics.
Chan Chiu Chung, Sacred Heart College, Canton.

Senior Local For Girls.

C. O. Frost, Kowloon British School.
A. M. Forsyth, Kowloon British School.
N. M. Buratto, Italian Convent School.

Junior Local For Boys.

V. M. Hest, Victoria British School.
G. F. C. Bullock, Kowloon British School.
R. C. G. G. Victoria British School.

Yuen Wai Ping.
Lee Pak Hing, Queen's College.

William Mok Kai Shung, Queen's College.
Ho Chien-wing.
Yan Hau-king, Ying Wah College.

Junior Local for Girls.

D. E. Curry, Kowloon British School.
Mary Kiroos, Kowloon British School.
E. M. Curry, Kowloon British School.
B. L. Vy, Kowloon British School.
E. F. Knight, Kowloon British School.

M. M. R. M. K. Kowloon British School.
G. L. Woolley, Victoria British School.

represent the monetary loss caused by the destruction of important books; but the figures given show as nearly as possible the amount of inconvenience involved besides actual loss of dollars and cents."

The Fire at Queen's Road Central.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph."

Sir,—In the *Telegraph* report of the above fire it states that Mr. Lemm saved most but not all of his books and papers. Although it is the reverse of pleasant to have to admit otherwise, and as I have stated the true case to many kind enquiring friends, I trust you will allow my correction of the above statement. From the time of the alarm to the time of my exit from the building was only a quarter of an hour, and during the time my wife and I had only time to dress ourselves and our baby and hurriedly leave the building. I secured a few plans, papers, account books and diaries, but everything else including some valuable plans that were pinned to my draughting-boards, was lost in the flames. Yours truly,—John Lemm.

INDO-CHINA STEAMERS.

False Rumours of Losses.

With reference to certain rumours which have been current in the Colony with regard to losses of vessels of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, we are authoritatively informed that such reports are entirely without foundation.

ALLEGED FALSE PRETENCES.

Serious Charges Against a European.

The hearing was continued at the Police Court this morning, of the case in which Frank Carlyle Castleman stands charged with false pretences, it being alleged that he secured board and lodging from the landlady of the Seamen's Institute by falsely representing that he was still employed by the Asiatic Petroleum Company. Mr. O. F. Mason appeared for the defence. Two further charges were added, of forging a certain security for the payment of \$65 per month, on two different dates, bearing the name of Mr. W. A. Butterfield, with intent to defraud. Mr. Mason asked for a day to be fixed, and applied for bail. Inspector O'Sullivan asked for \$1,000.

Mr. Mason said this was an exorbitant sum. Defendant was a European and under the present restrictions it was impossible for him to get away. The case of Guinness it was a different thing as they had free ingress and egress to and from the Colony. His Worship said it was a serious charge, and he could not take any less bail. Accused was remanded.

THE COLONY'S FINANCES.

Treasury Statement for October.

The Hongkong Treasury has issued the following financial statement for the month of October, 1916:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

Balance of Assets and Liabilities on 30th September, 1916.	\$1,521,794.53
Revenue from 1st to 31st October, 1916.	1,315,179.65
	2,836,974.18

Expenditure from 1st to 31st October, 1916.	1,230,523.85
Balance.	\$1,606,450.33

Assets and Liabilities on 31st Oct. 1916.

LIABILITIES.

Deposits not Available.	\$ 736,740.35
House Service Account.	3,106.08
Postal Agencies.	15,266.86
Total Liabilities.	755,113.29
Balance.	1,606,450.33
Total.	\$2,361,563.63

ASSETS.

Subsidiary Coins.	\$ 635,060.23
Advances.	87,898.72
Imprest.	36,850.00
Crown Agents' Deposit Account.	694,384.29
Unallocated Stores (P.W.D.).	290,306.32
Unallocated Stores (Railway).	96,052.90
Balance, Bank.	464,314.62
Crown Agents' Current Account.	35,992.91
Exchange.	133.66
Total.	\$2,361,563.62

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

POULTRY.

OUR HOUSE FED CAPONS AND CHICKENS ARE THE BEST IN THE EAST.

TENDER EATING, DELICATE FLAVOUR—TRY THEM.

CHAMPAGNE SENNEVAL.



"CONNOISSEURS' CHOICE." This wine is well bodied, delicate, delicious and unquestionably the finest Champagne. It is equal to the high priced Champagnes now on the market.

Sole by: The WING ON Company Ltd.

SHIPPING SALES.

Liverpool Tonnage for London Owners.

The demand for steam tonnage keeps quite keen, and purchasers are in no wise deterred by the restrictions placed on British and some of the Allied owned boats, but of course under certain circumstances material allowances have to be made to attract buyers. The Liverpool steamer Lord Strathcona has been sold for about \$145,000 to prominent London owners, who were able to purchase at this low price by taking over the charter on time for ten, option fifteen years, which was effected before the war broke out at what is at present a merely nominal figure. She is a very fine type of boat, about 11,000 d.w., longitudinal framing, and fitted with submarine signalling, wireless outfit, electric light, and was only built last year by Messrs. Duxford, of Sunderland, consequently her new owners must be regarded as having purchased her advantageously. Compared with British tonnage, however, the prices ruling for neutrals, where sales are permitted at all—several neutral nations having prohibited sales outside their own flag—are very materially higher, and business has recently been done in such at relatively double the prices ruling for similar British tonnage. A shipping paper recorded the other day the time-charter of an American steamer of particularly unsuitable type for the North Atlantic trade, wherein the charterers were bound down to cover the steamer against war risks at a sum which represented a value of at least \$35 per ton on the deadweight of the boat, which was furthermore considerably over 20 years old.

Lecture.

The second of the series of religious lectures in the Helena May Institute will be given on Tuesday afternoon the 16th inst. at 5.00, by the Bishop of Victoria on "The History of the English Bible." The meeting is open to all women.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET in the best part of Kowloon one LARGE FURNISHED ROOM, with Board. Private Bath. Tennis Court. Telephone. Immediate possession. 1254 c/o "Hongkong Telegraph."

SAKURA BEER



SOLE AGENTS:

SUZUKI & CO.

TEL. 468

ALEXANDRA BUILDING.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on THURSDAY, the 19th January 1917,

commencing at 3.30 p.m. at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,

A Large Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture

comprising:—
Teak hatstand, easy chairs, blackwood overmantel, flower stands & stools, card table, teak bookcase, writing table, engravings, ornaments, carpets, etc., etc.
Teak extension dining tables and chairs, teak sideboards with bevelled mirrors, teak dinner waggons, dinner service, etc., etc.
Double brass & cherrywood bedsteads, teak wardrobes, dressing tables, washstand, chest of drawers, toilet crockery etc., etc.

Also
A Consignment of Household Linen.

Damask table cloths and napkins, white lace curtains, bath & face towels, bed covers, cotton sheets, pillow cases, cushion covers, elderdown quilts etc., etc.

On view from Wednesday, the 17th inst.

Catalogues will be issued. Terms—Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer.

CHOOSE

JAEGER
FINE PURE WOOL
UNDERWEAR.

ALL WEIGHTS | REPLACED IF SPOILED BY SHRINKAGE | ALL SIZES

MACKINTOSH

& CO. LTD.

Men's Wear Specialists,

16, DES VŒUX ROAD.

TELEPHONE NO. 28.

Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

OUR
ANNUAL CASH SALE

Commences on MONDAY next, January 15th, FOR

THREE DAYS ONLY.

WINTER COATS, COSTUMES, EVENING GOWNS, WRAPS, AND MILLINERY AT 25% DISCOUNT. A QUANTITY OF LADIES' & CHILDREN'S BOOTS AND SHOES, GREATLY REDUCED TO CLEAR. BARAINS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

TONE ABOVE ALL TONE

COLUMBIA
DOUBLE-DISC
RECORDS

Played On any Instrument Will Prove a Tone--
Revelation. Call and hear the latest.

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS:--

THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.
6, DES VŒUX ROAD. TEL. 1322.

WORTH HAVING.



**D. & J. Mc. CALLUM'S
PERFECTION
SCOTCH.**

**AVOID
IMITATIONS.**



SOLE AGENTS:--

CANDE, PRICE & CO., LTD.
TEL. NO. 135. 6, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

SHIPPING.

KONINKLYKE PAKETVAART, MAATSCHAPPY.

ROYAL PACKET NAVIGATION CO.

This vessel plies regularly between HONGKONG & BELAWAN DELI (Sumatra) via Swatow.
Next Sailings from Hongkong:

This vessel has excellent saloon accommodation for a limited number of passengers, is fitted with all modern conveniences and carries a duly qualified surgeon.
For freight and passage apply to—
Yok Building, Tel. 1574. JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.
Hing Kong, 50th Dec., 1916. Agents.

PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.
U. S. MAIL LINE.

Operating the new First Class Steamers

Hongkong to San Francisco,
via Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama and HONOLULU.

THE SUNSHINE BELT.

The most Comfortable Route to America and Europe.

Sailings from Hongkong.

These steamers have the most modern equipment including ALL LOWER BERTHS and Large Comfortable Staterooms (all single and two berths only).
The Safety and Comfort of Passengers is our First Consideration.
Cabin are interchangeable with the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and the Canadian Pacific Ocean Service, Ltd.
For further information, rates, literature, schedules etc., Apply to—
Company's Office in ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Chater Road.
Telephone No. 141.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO & WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., & CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

Single Fare by Night Steamer \$ 6.00
Return Fare by Night (available also for return by day steamer) 11.00
Single Fare by Day Steamer 5.00
Return Fare by Day Steamer 9.00

HONGKONG TO CANTON. | CANTON TO HONGKONG.

SATURDAY, 13th JANUARY, 1917.

10.00 p.m. Heungshan. | 5.00 p.m. Kinshan.

SUNDAY, 14th JANUARY, 1917.

10.00 p.m. Fatshan. | 5.00 p.m. Heungshan.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. Taishan Tons 2,008. | S.S. Sui Tai Tons 1,651.

HONGKONG TO MACAO.

Week days at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf. Sundays at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

MACAO TO HONGKONG.

Week days at 7.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sundays at 7.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

SUNDAY, 14th JANUARY, 1917.

The Company's Steamship

"TAISHAN"

Will depart from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf at 8 a.m. and return from Macao at 3 p.m.

N.B.—The Company's will also run a Steamer from Macao on Sunday at 7.30 a.m. and from Hongkong at 1 p.m., from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

FARES AS USUAL.

MACAO-CANTON LINE.

SERVICE SUSPENDED.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., THE CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. SAINAM 588 Tons, and S.S. NANNING 5.9 Tons.

One of the above Steamer leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at about 8 a.m., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 a.m. Round trips take about 5 days. Passengers can return to Hongkong or vice versa by the Company's direct Steamers LINTAN and SANUI. These vessels have superior Cabin accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity. Electric Fan in each Cabin.

Booking Office open daily (Sundays excepted) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON, & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.
HOTEL MANSIONS (First Floor), Opposite the Blake Pier.

NOTICES.

WELLS FARGO & CO.
EXPRESS.

FORWARDERS TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.
SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO THE
SHIPPING OF TOURISTS' BAGGAGE AND
PURCHASES. TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES CASHED.

B. MONTEITH WEBB & CO., Representatives.
1a, Chater Road. Phone No. 1500.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

HEAD OFFICE... NEW YORK.

Branches and Agencies in all
parts of the commercial world.

BANKERS.
FORWARDERS.
TOURIST AGENTS.

AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVELLERS CHEQUES—
the best form in which to carry travel funds.

13, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, TEL. NO. 2089.

E. HING

WING WOO STREET

SHIP CHANDLERS & GENERAL STOREKEEPERS.
STEEL, IRON, BRASS & METAL MERCHANTS.
WHOLESALE & RETAIL IRONMONGERS.
TELEPHONE 1116.

TAIKOO DOCKYARD,
BUILDERS OF SHIPS, ENGINES,
BOILERS

Of all Types and Sizes. Repairers, Salvors,
Forgemasters, Brass and Iron Founders,
Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

GRAVING DOCK.

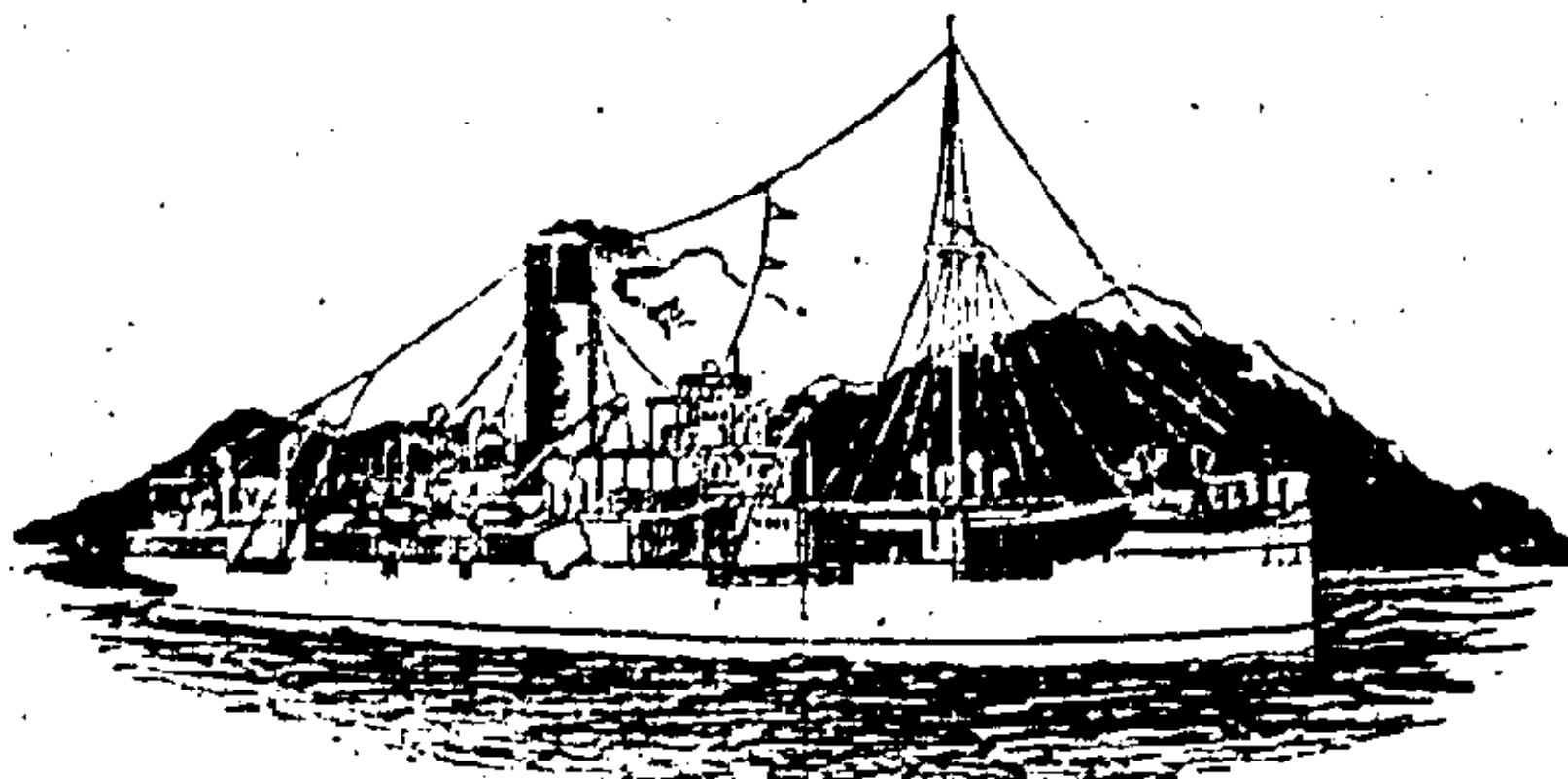
78' X 88' X 34'-6"

PATENT SLIPWAYS.

Take Vessels up to 3,000 Tons Displacement.

ELECTRIC CRANES

Ranging up to 100 Tons.



S.S. "KAJANG" launched April, 1916.

OXY-ACETYLENE
and Electric Welding Systems.

AGENTS FOR—

JOHN I. THORNYCROFT & CO., LTD.

Mr. ROXBURGH, Manager, TAIKOO DOCKYARD, is at present in
Hongkong and may be seen by appointment.

Marine & Road Motors, Light Draft Carriers,
Gunboats, Speedy Launches, Harbour Craft,
Houseboats and Pleasure Craft of every descrip-
tion. Motor Pumping Sets, Motor Vehicles, &c.

THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD AND
ENGINEERING COMPANY,
OF HONGKONG, LIMITED.
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE

HONGKONG, CHINA & JAPAN, AGENTS.
Tel. Address "TAIKOODOCK" Tel. No. 212.

TIDE TABLE.

From 8th Jan. to 14th Jan., 1917.

Day	Time	High Water Hong Kong Mean Time	Low Water Hong Kong Mean Time
Mon. 8	11	4.4	5.0
Tues. 9	10	4.4	5.0
Wed. 10	11	4.4	5.0
Thur. 11	10	4.4	5.0
Fri. 12	11	4.4	5.0
Sat. 13	10	4.4	5.0
Sun. 14	11	4.4	5.0

m morning. a afternoon.

NOTICE.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Messrs. MUSTARD & CO.'S
OFFICES and SHOWROOMS
are now situate at 4, Des Voeux
Road, Central. (First Floor).

THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.
Just arrived, Large Shipments of
Choice Hams.

NOTICES.

THE WEST POINT BUILD-
ING CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that
the TWENTY-NINTH
ORDINARY MEETING of
SHAREHOLDERS in this Com-
pany will be held at the Offices
of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson
& Co., Ltd., on MONDAY 29th
January, 1917, at 11.30 a.m. for the
purpose of receiving the Report
of the Directors together with a
Statement of Accounts for the
year ending 31st December, 1916.
The REGISTER of SHARES
of the Company will be CLOSED
from THURSDAY 18th to
MONDAY 29th January, 1917,
(both days inclusive), during
which period no Transfer of
Shares can be Registered.
By Order of the Board of
Directors

A. SHELTON HOOPER
Secretary to the
Hongkong Land Investment
& Agency Co., Ltd.
General Agents for the
West Point Building Company,
Limited.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1917.

THE HONGKONG LAND
RECLAMATION CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the SIXTEENTH
ORDINARY MEETING of
SHAREHOLDERS in this Com-
pany will be held at the Offices
of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson
& Co., Ltd., on MONDAY, 29th
January, 1917, at 12.15 p.m. for
the purpose of receiving the
Report of the Directors together
with the Statement of Accounts
for the year ending 31st Decem-
ber, 1916.
The REGISTER of SHARES
of the Company will be CLOSED
from THURSDAY 18th to MON-
DAY 29th January, 1917,
(both days inclusive), during
which period no Transfer of
Shares can be Registered.
By Order of the Board of
Directors,
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Secretary,
Hongkong, 11th January, 1917.

HONGKONG STOCK
EXCHANGE.

THE Committee has decided
that the following shall be
the settlement days for the year
1917.

Monday 29th January.
Friday 23rd February.
Thursday 29th March.
Friday 27th April.
Wednesday 30th May.
Thursday 28th June.
Friday 27th July.
Wednesday 29th August.
Thursday 27th September.
Monday 29th October.
Wednesday 28th November.
Friday 21st December.
By order of the Committee,
EDWARD M. RAYMOND,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong Stock Exchange.
Hongkong, 6th January, 1917.

NOTICES.

HONGKONG ELECTRIC
CO., LTD.

As already notified, this Com-
pany's Generating Plant is
now carrying in the vicinity of
the maximum load, and no fur-
ther installations can be made
for the present. Consumers and
Wiring Contractors are warned
against the danger of making
additions to existing installations
and are reminded that under the
Regulations for securing the
Safety of the Public contained
in the Schedule to the Electricity
Supply Ordinance 1911 (as
amended) "Any person making
any addition to any electrical
installation connected to the
Company's main
shall be liable to a penalty not
exceeding fifty Dollars for every
such addition."

By Order of the Board,

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.
Agents.
Hongkong, 5th January, 1917.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

GLDERUP & SCHLUTER IN
LIQUIDATION.

First Dividend of 2 1/2%.

CREDITORS of the above firm
are hereby notified that a
FIRST DIVIDEND of 20% on the
amount of their claims will be
paid on application to the Under-
signed on and after THURSDAY
the 1st of February, 1917.

W. G. HUMPHREYS & CO.,
No. 16, Queen's Road, Central.
Liquidators.

THE HONGKONG CENTRAL
ESTATE LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the THIRD ORDIN-
ARY MEETING of SHARE-
HOLDERS in this Company will
be held at the Offices of Messrs.
Jardine, Matheson & Company,
Limited, on Monday 29th, Janu-
ary, 1917, at 11.45 a.m., for the
purpose of receiving the Report
of the Directors together with the
Statement of Accounts for the
year ending 31st December, 1916.
The REGISTER of SHARES
of the Company will be CLOSED
from THURSDAY 18th to MON-
DAY 29th January, 1917, (both
days inclusive), during which
period no Transfer of Shares can
be Registered.
By Order of the Board of
Directors.

THE HONGKONG CENTRAL
ESTATE LIMITED.

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary to
THE GENERAL MANAGERS.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1917.

CONSIGNEES

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

S.S. "SHINYO MARU," From
SAN FRANCISCO, VIA
HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS
and MANILA.

The above named Steamer hav-
ing arrived, Consignees of cargo
are hereby notified to send in
their Bills of Lading for counter-
signature, and to take immediate
delivery of Cargo from alongside.
Cargo remaining undelivered
on 10th January, at noon, will
be landed at Consignees' risk and
expense, and delivery must then
be taken from the Company's
Godown. Storage charges will
be assessed on all cargo remain-
ing undelivered on 14th January,
at 5 p.m.

No Fire Insurance whatever
will be effected.
No Claim will be recognised
after the Goods have left the
Steamer or Godown.
All chafed and damaged cargo
will be landed into the Com-
pany's Godown, where they will
be examined on 17th January,
1917, at 10 a.m.
No Claims will be recognised if
filed after the 18th January,
1917.

T. DAIGO,
Agent.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1917.

AMERICAN & MANOHURIAN
LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
FROM NEW YORK.

THE Steamship

"CITY OF MADRAS"

Captain WM. GRAY, having
arrived from the above Ports,
Consignees of Cargo are hereby
informed that their goods are
being landed at their risk into
the Godowns of the Hongkong
and Kowloon Wharf and Godown
Company, Limited, Kowloon, and
stored at Consignees' risk and
expense.

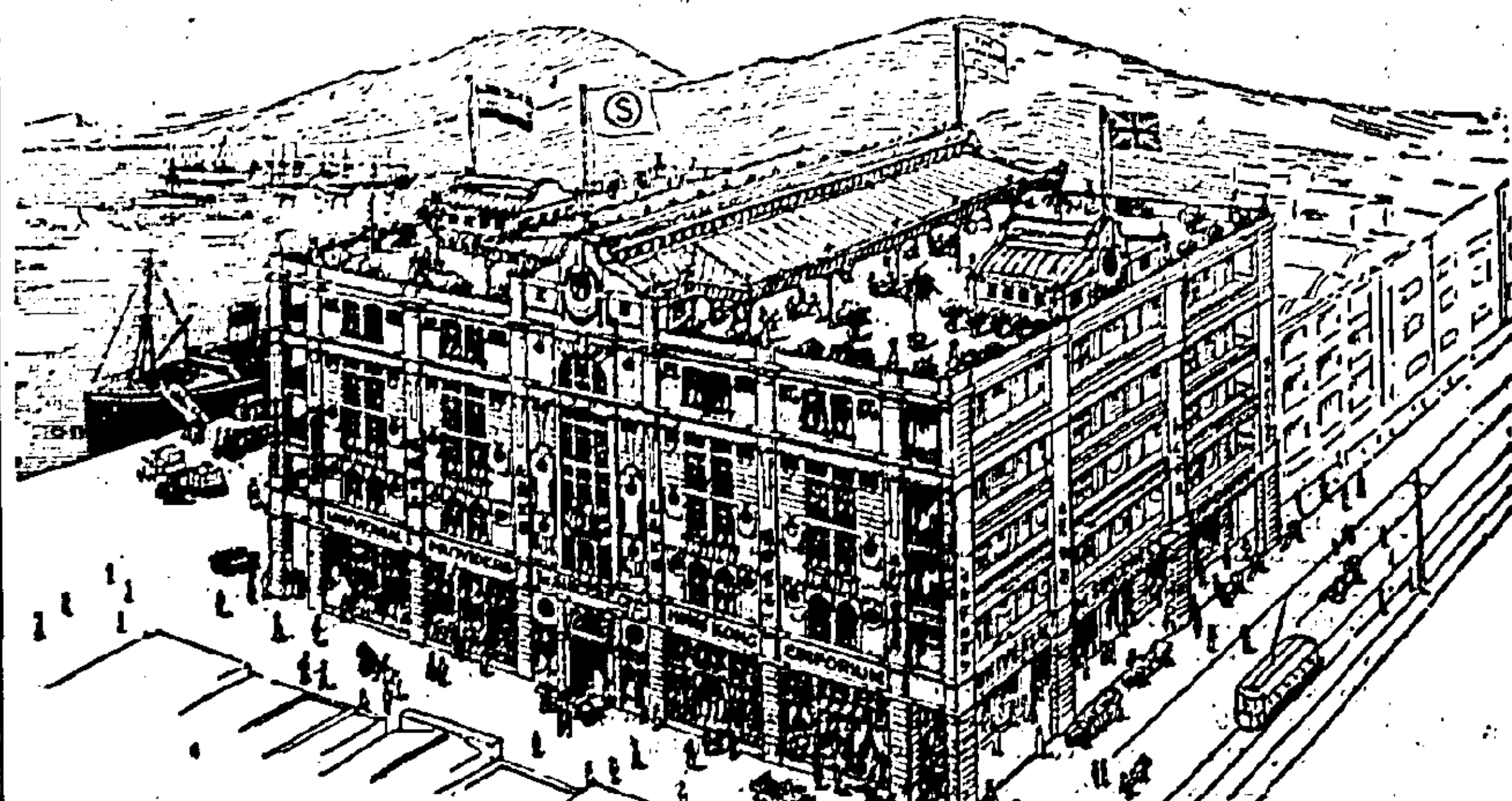
Consignees of Cargo are hereby
notified that they must produce
an Import Permit signed by the
Superintendent of Imports and
Exports, Hongkong, before Bills
of Lading can be countersigned.
All broken, chafed and dam-
aged goods are to be left in the
godowns, where they will be
examined on TUESDAY, 16th
inst., at 10 a.m.

All claims must be presented
within FIFTEEN DAYS of the
steamer's arrival here, after
which date they cannot be
recognised.

No claims will be admitted
after the goods have left the
Godowns, and all goods remain-
ing undelivered after the 17th
inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been
effected.
Bills of Lading will be counter-
signed by

SHRWMAN, TOMES & CO.
Agents,
Hongkong, 10th January, 1917.

THE SINCERE CO., LTD.
UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS.

THE LARGEST MODERN DEPARTMENT STORE IN THE EAST.
AIRIEST, CLEANEST AND COOLEST IN EVERY RESPECT.
WITH ELEVATORS TO EVERY FLOOR.

REFRESHMENTS ON THE ROOF GARDEN. PRICES MODERATE.

TEL. 1007.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

(Continued from Page 1.)

NEW SHIPPING REGULATION.

January 11, 11.05 p.m.

A new Regulation under the Defence of the Realm Act relates to the chartering of and from British Governments, with a view to closer co-ordination among the Allies in the employment of tonnage. Similar Regulations are being adopted in France and Italy, and the permission of the national authority of each country will henceforth be necessary before foreign tonnage can be chartered.

Further Success in Mesopotamia.

January 11, 11.05 p.m.

An official message from Mesopotamia says:—We captured on Wednesday the majority of the trenches in the loop to the north-east of Kut.

Two hundred corpses were found in one of the communication trenches, and many elsewhere.

ADMIRAL JELlicoe.

Tributes to Navy and Mercantile Marine.

January 12, 3.50 a.m.

Admiral Sir John Jellicoe has been given the Freedom of the City of London by the Fishmongers Company. In the course of a speech he dwelt on the difficulties of naval warfare, as torpedoing was effective at ten thousand yards, beyond which visibility was bad, especially in the North Sea. Submarines, combined with mines, prevented a close blockade, but nevertheless the Germans had only once ventured far enough to fight.

He spoke of the world-wide activities of the Navy, which comprised four thousand vessels, and drew attention to the arduous work of the Home Cruiser Squadron, which examined weekly an average of eighty ships in all waters.

He paid a tribute to the co-operation of the mercantile marine and said seven million men had been transported overseas, together with guns, munitions and stores. He remarked that 2,500 mercantile skippers had been employed.

The submarine menace was greater than ever, and must and will be dealt with. He appealed to the shipbuilding workers to be most energetic in replacing mercantile losses.

(In the event of telegrams arriving too late for insertion on this page they will be found on an Extra.)

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

IN MACEDONIA.

January 11, 10.50 p.m.

A French Macedonian communiqué states that an artillery duel, increasing over the whole front, particularly in the Struma regions of Makova and Monastir, has been effective.

Anglo-French aeroplane bombardments were carried out on military establishments and camps.

LATEST GERMAN CASUALTY LIST.

January 11.

The casualties in the official German lists for December—(not necessarily incurred in December)—totalled 88,291 including 15,169 killed.

GERMANY'S VIEW.

January 12, 1.00 a.m.

According to Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent, a Berlin message states that a Note has been handed to the neutrals' representatives indicating Germany's view of the situation owing to the enemy reply to the peace proposals.

THE NEW BRITISH WAR LOAN.

Text of the Prospectus.

London, January 12.

Issue of 25 per cent. war loan 1922-1947 in stock or bonds. Interest payable 1st June and 1st December.

First dividend as follows: payable 1st June, 1917, on fully-paid allotments £1.25 per cent. Instalment Allotments £0.11.10 per cent.

Price of issue 250 per cent. payable as follows:—1, for fully-paid allotments on application 250 per cent.; 2, for instalment allotments on application 25 per cent. on Friday, 2nd March, 1917; 25 per cent. on Friday, 23rd March, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 18th April, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 9th May, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 30th May, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 14th June, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 28th June, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 12th July, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 26th July, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 9th August, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 23rd August, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 6th September, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 20th September, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 4th October, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 18th October, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 1st November, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 15th November, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 29th November, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 13th December, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 27th December, 1917; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 10th January, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 24th January, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 7th February, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 21st February, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 7th March, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 21st March, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 4th April, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 18th April, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 2nd May, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 16th May, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 30th May, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 13th June, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 27th June, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 11th July, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 25th July, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 8th August, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 22nd August, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 5th September, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 19th September, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 3rd October, 1918; 25 per cent. on Wednesday, 17th October, 1918; 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THE RECENT POLITICAL CHANGES.

AN APPRECIATION OF MR. ASQUITH.

[The article which we print below, and which has been culled from the well-known American weekly, *The Outlook*, gives, by the pen of Mr. Sydney Brooke, a charming character sketch of Mr. Asquith, and throws into relief his tremendous contribution to the Empire during the past two-and-a-half years of war. Such a widely-known writer as Mr. Brooke has done a real service by his contribution, for it is well that America should know, by one so able to tell them, of the principles dominating one who has been England's leading figure for almost a decade past. The article is as follows:—]

For an Englishman the cable despatches from London during the past few days had so familiar a sound as to bring on almost an attack of homesickness. "Asquith Must Go." "Revolt Against the British Premier." "Cabinet Dissensions: Will Asquith Resign?"—so ran the headlines. And below them were columns of more or less shrewd, more or less excited speculation as to whether this, the fifth or sixth, attack in force against the Prime Minister since the war began would succeed, and, if it did, who would take his place? It was all, as I have said, very familiar. We in England have lived on that sort of diet pretty constantly in the past two and a half years. We have been wrought up time and again to a state of high expectancy over changes in the Cabinet and in the Premiership. The changes in the Cabinet, or some of them, have taken place. There is to-day, as there has been for eighteen months and more, national and non-party Government, while in August, 1914, there was a Cabinet wholly composed of Liberals. No one could possibly have foreseen when the war broke out that it would be waged in December 1916, by the men who a bare week ago actually formed the British Ministry. As in all the belligerent lands, some men have unexpectedly collapsed beneath the touchstone of war, and others, not less unexpectedly, have risen above themselves to the full height of its demands. I think I am right in saying that only one British Cabinet Minister was holding last week the office he held at the beginning of the war. The Minister was Mr. Asquith. Repeatedly assailed, decided, criticised, and against a growing volume of conviction that his temperament and training are not those that make him an ideal pilot for a storm, he still remained the head of the British Cabinet. But now has he gone? Has a great Premiership closed in dissension and defeat?

What has been the note of his career? More than anything else, I should say, the note of Mr. Asquith's career is a consistent capacity for rising to the occasion. He has never, to my knowledge, failed in anything he has been called upon to undertake. One gets, indeed, almost a sense of monotony from a survey of his achievements. As a boy he captured all the school prizes; as a youth he won the Balliol, took a double first, became President of the Oxford Union, and carried off the Craven; a few years later, after a wholesome period of struggle and difficulty, he was recognized as one of the most effective of English advocates; in Parliament he attracted Gladstone's favoring notice with almost his first speech. And it has all been done without theatricality or self-advertisement, with no attempt to dazzle his contemporaries or force their applause, and without the least assistance from those advantages of birth, wealth, and social connections that in the England of the pre-war days, more perhaps than in any other country, smoothed the path of political and legal ambition.

Asquith's career is as fully a structure of his own rearing as Lloyd George's or John Burns's. He has made his own way on his own merits; he might have stood alongside of the present minister for war and the ex-President of the Local Government Board as a product and representative of that newer England in which even before the war men were being judged and rewarded for what they were and for what they did, and not for the non-essen-

tials of lineage or means or social position; and yet he has never touched the imagination of the country as they have done, or roused in it a passion either of enthusiasm or of detestation. There is something of coldness in the popular conception of, and attitude towards, the late Premier; he is not one of the men, as Lloyd George must decidedly be, whom you are violently for or violently against; even his own followers regard him with pride, respect, admiration, and an implicit confidence in his all but unflinching adequacy, rather than with affection. I never indeed, think of him and of his relations to public sentiment without also thinking of another very great man, like him a lawyer, an administrator, and a statesman of the highest competence, and yet, like him, somewhat shut off from the innermost hearts of men—I mean Mr. Elihu Root. Mr. Asquith is not a bit more sparing than Mr. Root of the fuss and flourish that democracies love. Both men would probably stand higher in the judgment of the unthinking, easily tickled mob if they had not so rigidly eschewed the artifices that most politicians cultivate even to ostentation. One can imagine neither man indulging in a *beau geste*. Both are as deliberately undramatic and non-sensational as human beings can be. You look in vain for purple patches in the career or the oratory of either. Both make the mistake of doing things, or appearing to do them, too easily. With a slightly different temperament, Mr. Root's position in American public life would long ago have been on a par with his unique capacities. Of Mr. Asquith, as of Sir Robert Peel, posterity may say that if only his personality had equalled his performances he would have been the greatest of all British Premiers.

As it is, the real Asquith, whose praises are sung by his friends, whom all children instinctively delight in—the man of quick, vivid, and hearty emotions, of genial consideration, of warm and tolerant humanity—goes almost unappreciated by the general public; and Lord Rosebery never surprised England more than when he went bail for it that Mr. Asquith possessed qualities of heart even more remarkable than his qualities of head. The average man remains to this day unconvinced. He finds in Mr. Asquith few of those amiable and attractive weaknesses and accomplishments that irresistibly engage the popular interest. Nobody disputes the genuineness of his abilities or effects to deny that he has simply earned every success he has won. Yet nobody is really thrilled by him. A somewhat hard, self-centered embodiment of all the efficiencies; one whom it is difficult to think of as ever having been young, expansive, and indiscreet; not without a touch of Oxford arrogance; apt to treat stupidity as a first-class fighting man, always at the top of his form and able at any moment to bring all his powers into play, yet somehow spoiling the effect of his triumphs by the dry and unsympathetic self-assurance with which he enters the lists and the mechanical regularity with which he routs his antagonists—it is in such ways as these that the British public, no wiser than any other public in judging its leaders, thinks of Mr. Asquith.

The deficiency which I am trying to bring out—it is more readily felt than expressed—is palpable in Mr. Asquith's

speeches. They are just as good as any public speaking can be that has not behind it a genuine oratorical inspiration. They are models of clearness and precision; few speakers, indeed, can pack so much into so few words as Mr. Asquith; they are full of vigorous thought, of trenchant and sonorous diction; they are admirably arranged; stroke follows upon stroke without hesitation and with direct and compelling force; and yet they are as unmistakably not oratory as George Eliot's verse is not poetry. The reason, I think, is that Mr. Asquith has himself too completely in hand, knows to a nicety just what he is going to say and how he is going to say it, and is never for a moment in danger of being carried out of himself. The color and rhythm, the exaltation and abandon, of oratory are not for him. There is something, indeed, almost mechanically impersonal about Mr. Asquith's air on a public platform and when he rises to address the House. He seems independent of all emotional communion with his audience. I have often wondered, while listening to him, whether he would not speak equally well to no audience at all or to one of broomsicks.

And yet, even as I write that, I am conscious of doing him less than justice. For in the past two and a half years I know of no one who has stated the British case or appraised the issues between Germany and the Allies in language more majestic, more powerful, or more pertinent than his. The war has not implanted in him the native fire of eloquence that is of the essence, for example, of Mr. Lloyd George's whole being. A man possesses that gift by right of birth or he does not possess it at all. But the great struggle and his own great part in it have wrought upon Mr. Asquith until his speeches have been lit by a glow and passion unselfish, or at least unexpressed, before. Let me quote from what he said on the second anniversary of the war—it is a fair sample of the Asquith style:

"Early in the war I quoted a sentence which Mr. Gladstone used in 1870. 'The greatest triumph of our time,' he said, 'has been the enthronement of the idea of public right as the governing idea of European politics.' Mr. Gladstone worked all his life for that noble purpose. He did not live to see its attainment. By the victory of the Allies the enthronement of public right here in Europe will pass from the domain of ideals and of aspirations into that of concrete and achieved realities. What does public right mean? I will tell you what I understand it to mean—an equal level of opportunity and of independence as between small states and great states, as between the weak and the strong; safeguards resting upon the common will of Europe, and, I hope, not of Europe alone, against aggression, against international covetousness and bad faith, against the warlike resort in case of dispute to the use of force and the disturbance of peace; finally, as the result of it all, a great partnership of nations federated together in the joint pursuit of a freer and fuller life for countless millions who by their efforts and their sacrifice, generation after generation, maintain the progress and enrich the inheritance of humanity."

Those, obviously, are the words of a man of intellect and culture, not without vision, not without sympathy, but—who does not feel it?—with his emotional side held severely captive to his brain. They are impressive, but they do not thrill. They are weighty, but they are not vital. I hope posterity will read them. But for myself I would far sooner have heard Mr. Lloyd George handling the same theme in his own incomparable style. For Mr. Lloyd George answers Pascal's test. You forget, when sitting beneath him, that you are listening to a speech. You remember only that you are listening to a man. You hardly ever remember that when you are listening to Mr. Asquith; and it is in this habitual self-repression that very largely accounts for the fact that the ex-Premier is a greater figure in Parliament than in the country, and that among the masses of the people his person-

ality has never been the invaluable asset that Gladstone's was.

There have been many occasions in the past eight years of his Premiership when Mr. Asquith has gained far more than he has lost by having been pitched in a minor key. Our normal British preferences in normal times are for men with a certain energetic moderation of speech and bearing. Mr. Asquith possesses this quality as few men have ever possessed it; and it repeatedly stood out in the days before the war in piquant contrast to the harangues and demagogues of some of his colleagues. Vehemently as the Tories and the Protectionists and the Irish Unionists might falter against him, they at least preferred him to Mr. Lloyd George or Mr. Winston Churchill; and one of their stock amusements was to heckle him in the House after one or the other of his brilliant lieutenant had committed some characteristic indiscretion that must have jarred on no one's nerves more than on his. Mr. Asquith was never "brilliant." He was quite content to be outshone by colleagues more restless than himself or with a more taking manner on a public platform. But there was never any real doubt among those on the inside of things as to where lay the true seat of power and authority. His political opponents pretended to doubt it. For years they were busy assuring the world that the Prime Minister was a mere figurehead in his own Cabinet, that the real control of affairs was in Mr. Lloyd George's or Mr. Churchill's hands, and that Mr. Asquith, besides being the shuttlecock of more forceful spirits, was the obsequious slave of Mr. Redmond. And this, no doubt, believed it, because in politics people will believe anything. Yet there never was a more fantastic misapprehension.

I venture, indeed, to say that there has been no stronger Prime Minister than Mr. Asquith since Gladstone's resignation—no Prime Minister, I mean, more sure of himself, more competent to impose his will, with a greater instinct for leadership, or with a firmer grasp over policy and administration alike. If there is one thing Asquith never has been, and never could be, it is a time-serving politician. In the old days of his Home Secretaryship—now nearly twenty-five years ago—when for a while he was the idol of labor, when he was stretching all the powers of his office in the cause of social and industrial reform, and when he was filling the nation with a new sense of its responsibilities, he none the less on three crucial questions did not hesitate to stand up to labor in the country and to his political allies in the House of Commons when he was convinced that the public interest demanded it. A flabby and acquiescent person is precisely what Asquith is not. Look at the record of his Cabinet from 1908 to 1914. He presided over a Government unique in British annals for the many-sided energy of its reforming vigor. He conducted a profound constitutional revolution to a successful issue; and in 1911 he faced and quelled the most surprising and ministerial outbreak of social and industrial discontent that has ever threatened the internal peace of the British Isles.

But there is one set of values in time of peace and another and a very different set in time of war. What a democracy needs at the head of its affairs when it is engaged in fight for sheer existence is a man who will take big risks and make sharp decisions, who will rouse and rely upon its heroic potentialities, who will mirror its martial soul. These are functions which Mr. Asquith is by no means as competent to discharge as Mr. Lloyd George. He is getting on in years; he is past the time of life when a man still has a large reservoir of energy to draw upon in a crisis; there is in him an inclination, not towards indolence—he is and always has been a hard worker—but towards doing no more than is necessary; he has a natural relish for the pleasant relaxations of life; work with him is a habit, but it is not, as it is with Mr. Lloyd George, an instinct; he prefers, if he can, to find a way out of difficulties

rather than through them; he is rather too apt to trust to his unrivalled Parliamentary dexterity as a means of evading a troublesome situation and then to persuade himself that because he has evaded it it will trouble him no more; as a lawyer his preferences are all on the side of taking one step at a time, with the minimum of violence to constitutional usage, established customs, and the precedents of peace; something is always counselling him to avoid making a decision to-day if it can possibly be postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. Asquith showed these attributes clearly enough before the war. They were conspicuous, for instance, in his treatment of the Ulster movement organized by Sir Edward Carson. They have been, as one would naturally expect, not less conspicuous since the outbreak of the war. With another type of leader in control, the British nation would have accepted universal military service long before it did, would have shut down on the drink traffic completely and at a stroke instead of partially and by slow degrees, would have adopted with enthusiasm a programme of enforced economy, and would by now have arrayed itself down to the last able-bodied man and the last able-bodied woman for compulsory war work. The fatal words, "Too late," which have had so often to be written as the finish to British enterprises in this war might never have been written at all had the Prime Minister been a man of bigger imagination and greater driving power and more skilled to read and appeal to the fighting temper of the nation. It is the essence of the charge against Mr. Asquith that he has been too dilatory and legalistic, not sufficiently resourceful, unwilling or unable to take the leaps in the dark that have to be taken in such times as these, and too slow to cut adrift from the notion that war can be run by a debating society. Hence a Cabinet much too large for quick executive action. Hence a tendency to consider measures, not from the standpoint of winning the war—which is the only thing to which nation cares about—but from the standpoint of whether or not a good case could be made out for them in Parliament. Hence, too, hesitations, a lack of sure grip, and a failure to impress the people that every ounce of administrative energy was being brought directly to bear on the problems of the war.

But, in spite of everything, Mr. Asquith has the very highest claims on the gratitude of the British nation. He has stated, as I said, the British case in language of rare nobility. He has never shown the smallest signs of nervousness or dependency. His courage has had the solidity of a rock. Amid the appalling anxieties and the grievous disappointments of the war he has maintained an unflinching front, always cool, always master of himself, the very embodiment of sturdy British strength. Moreover, practically the whole management of Parliament, at a time when parties were in a chaos of dissolution, when new issues were forcing almost every day new alignments, and when not merely Cabinet Ministers but the entire theory and practice of Cabinet government had to be sacrificed, has fallen on his shoulders. I do not think that they could have fallen on better shoulders. For Mr. Asquith has not only a rich and varied assortment of Parliamentary gifts and experience, can not only present a case to the House of Commons in the way most likely to insure its success, but has also the confidence and respect of the Assembly to a degree that no other man approaches. His judgment, his character, his intellectual power, and his prestige have been so far that the country could not have done without. For winning the war, for inspiring the nation to keep to the heroic path, for real and consistent insight into the emotions of the people, for audacity both in methods and in conceptions, for moral leadership, for flaming and contagious energy Mr. Lloyd George is the better man. But he might, not at that moment and in every respect prove the better Prime Minister.

"REUTERS."

Meaning of the Change.

Reuters have during the past week entered upon a new chapter in their history (says the *Observer* of December 3). At a meeting on Thursday the shareholders unanimously agreed to sell their property for over half a million sterling—to be precise, for £550,000—to the Hon. Mark F. Napier, Lord Glenconner, Viscount Peel, and Sir Starr Jenson. There will be no change in the policy or administration of the great Agency, and the Chief, Mr. Roderick Jones, will "continue in that position," according to a recently issued statement, "with enlarged powers."

Though he is a young man, and only succeeded to the late Baron de Reuter's chair last year, after the tragic death of that accomplished but little known publicist, Mr. Roderick Jones has proved himself to be possessed of exceptional talents, and during the short time he has held office he has, by a combination of energy, determination, and apparently inexhaustible tact, impressed the stamp of his personality upon, and infused his spirit into, every branch of the world-wide organization which he has been called upon to control, and with which he has been associated, mostly abroad, for the last twenty years.

The Agency, as everybody knows, was founded in London by the late Baron de Reuter's father, Baron Julius de Reuter, over sixty years ago. After a time it was converted into a limited liability company, and the late Baron, after passing through Harrow and Oxford, succeeded Baron Julius in the control of the Agency. About five years ago the public were invited to subscribe, and readily did subscribe at a premium, a considerable amount of additional capital for the company. This brought in a large body of new shareholders with the result that Reuters, while strengthened financially, became exposed to the danger inseparable from a state of affairs under which the control of the Agency, always absolutely independent, might have passed partly, if not wholly, into the hands of any wealthy individual or corporation who systematically bought up the widely scattered shares.

Mr. Napier's Proposal. This gentleman, the last survivor, with Mr. F. W. Dickinson, the Agency's distinguished chief editor, of what might be called the Old Guard of Reuters, resolved to put the agency once and for all beyond the reach of any of the undesirable influences which otherwise in the future might endanger its integrity and especially its national character. The upshot of Mr. Napier's determination was that he and the other three gentlemen named presented a proposal to the Board of the company, which the Board felt bound to recommend the shareholders to accept, and which Mr. Gerald Williams, the director who presided at Thursday's meeting, so ably and convincingly expounded to them. We understand, and, indeed, it was only to be expected, that Mr. Williams and his colleagues, the Hon. Edmund Parker and Mr. George Grinnell Milne, afforded to Mr. Napier the most loyal support in carrying out what they and the shareholders recognized to be a patriotic undertaking of this time of crisis, and of international crisis. As one speaker at the meeting truly remarked:—

"Mr. Napier has certainly shown, in this transaction, an extraordinary insight, and has displayed not only great precision and energy, but above all I firmly believe that he has acted mainly from patriotic motives, with great unselfishness, in the great cause which Reuters represents."

Questioned yesterday by a representative of the *Observer* regarding the policy of the agency, Mr. Roderick Jones replied that he could not do better than quote what Mr. Gerald Williams, speaking from the chair, had said to the shareholders when announcing Mr. Napier's scheme to them:—

"The shareholders stand for all that is honourable and straight-

forward in British traditions, and the shareholders may be fully assured that Reuters as a world-wide news and political agency, will be safe in their hands, and will not be used to further any unworthy, anti-British, or selfish purpose."

Essentially British.

"Reuters are, and always have been, an essentially British institution," said Mr. Roderick Jones, "and the governing idea in all the measures which have culminated in the transfer of the ownership of the Agency from a multitude of people into the hands of what will be a small and, I believe, impregnable private company has been 'definitely to safeguard the Agency, for the future, from any possibility of its being captured by any person, or collection of persons, who might attempt to influence its operations, cleverly and insidiously, in a manner harmful to, or even destructive of, British interests.'"

"With its network of agencies and correspondents all over the globe, a vast and sensitive machine, responding instantly to the control exercised from the headquarters in London, Reuters might have become, under an actual, though probably not apparent, and British ownership, a grave menace to Imperial interests, a menace grave because not manifest to the general public either at home or abroad. Fortunately, the measures now taken render anything of the kind quite impossible. The ownership of the Agency is to-day in a few and very strong hands, in the hands of men whose names are the best assurance anywhere to be found that the high traditions of Reuters will be maintained."

We may venture the opinion that Mr. Roderick Jones's presence at the head of the Agency is in itself a guarantee of this. Amongst all who know him he has earned a reputation for integrity and strength of purpose which constitute a valuable asset to Reuters.

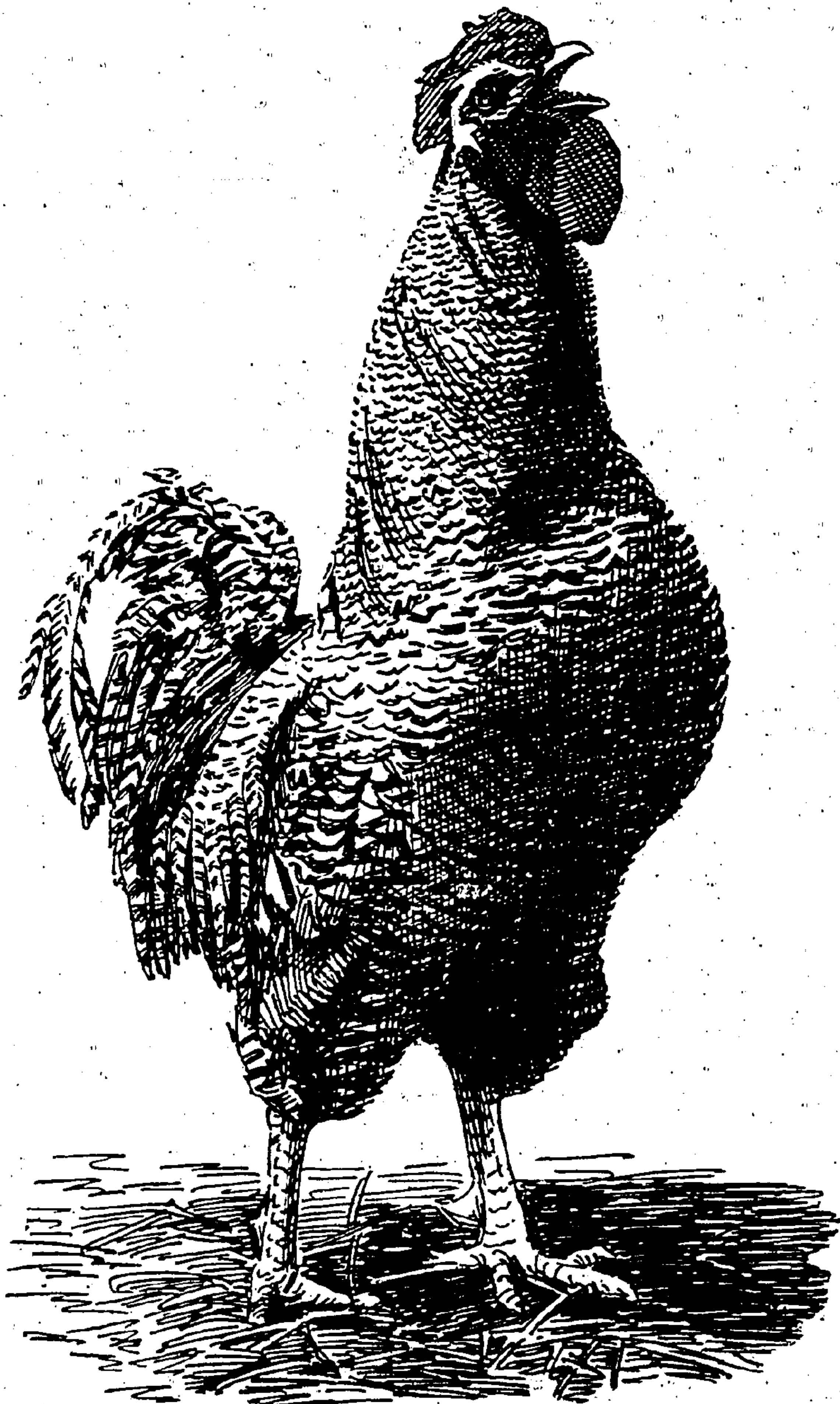
The Reuter Method.

We understand that no changes are being made in the administration or personnel of the Agency in any part of the world. Reuters to-morrow and the next day will be the Reuters of yesterday and the day before. At the headquarters in Old Jewry everything goes on exactly as it did. And for a very good reason. For the reason that, quite apart from the fact that the administration and the personnel throughout the world remain unaltered, the governing element in the situation is the Hon. Mark F. Napier, whose dominating idea, after his thirty years' association with Reuters as a director, and in later years as a chairman, was and is to preserve, not to alter or obliterate, the identity of the Agency; and as it is to guarantee the continued and unflinching observance, in the Reuter cable services to and from all parts of the world, of those principles of accuracy and strict impartiality which have distinguished the Agency's intelligence system ever since the first days of its foundation.

The newspaper Press and the general public will look in vain for any departure from the well-tested Reuter method. What, however, may be looked for is a gradual and consistent development and expansion of the various services, so far as war conditions will permit, with the object of meeting still further the requirements of the Press and of the public.

"The interests of the Press of the Empire," said Mr. Roderick Jones yesterday, "particularly on the Imperial side and in foreign affairs, are the interests of Reuters. You may depend upon it that we shall not lose sight of that fact; we have been, and are being, greatly handicapped by the withdrawal, the very proper withdrawal, of a large number of our staff for military service. Over a hundred members of our staff are at the front. Most of them came into force. That is right, and we cannot but be proud of it. But, of course, it increases enormously the difficulty of introducing the improvements in the service which we have mapped out. Nevertheless, the improvements shall be made."

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

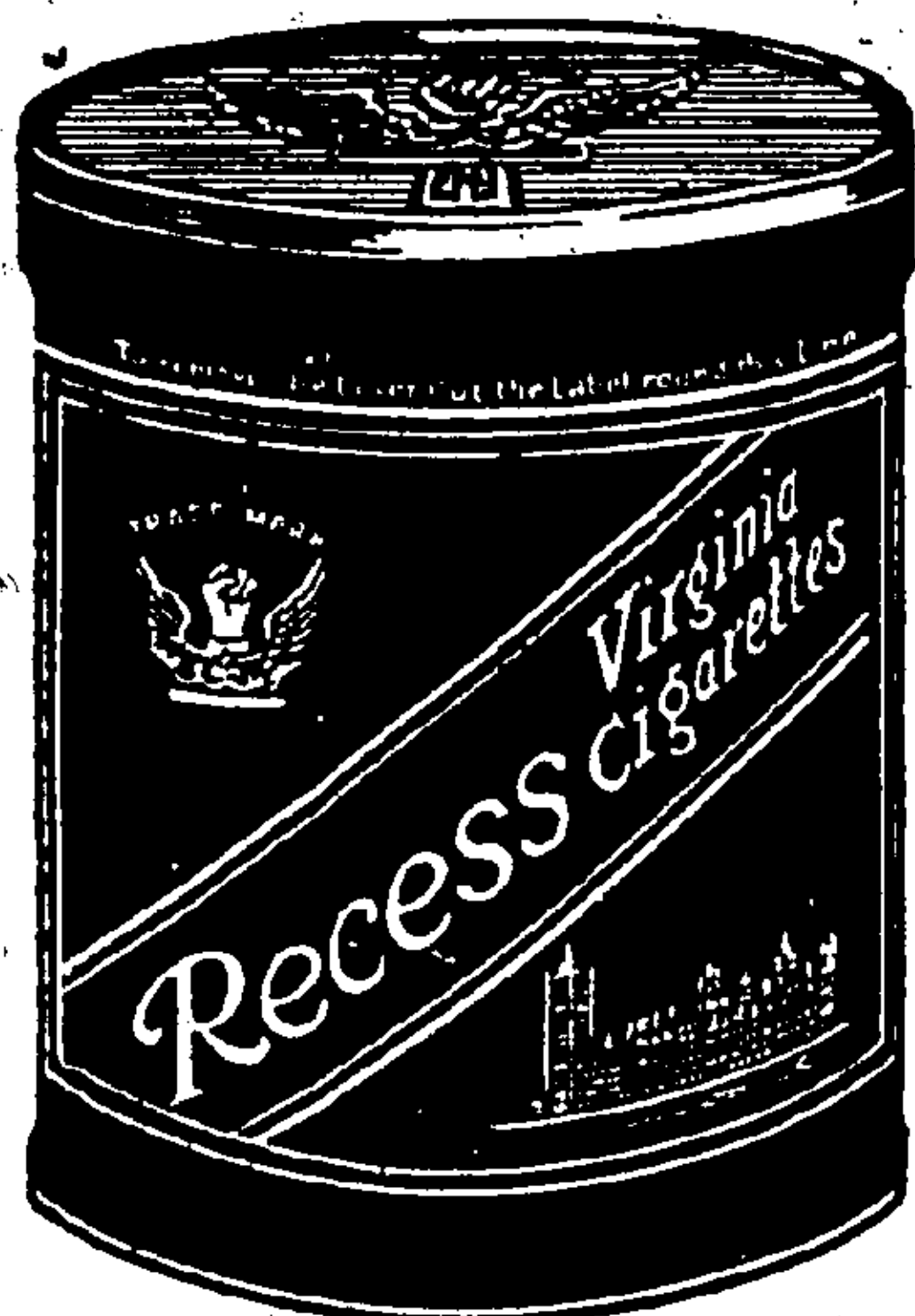


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PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

MONDAY,
 the 15th January, 1917, at
 3 p.m. on the Spot.

The Several Lots Numbered 1 to 19 on Plan to be seen at the Auctioneer's Office, for auction of

Booths and Malsheds,

on the Government Ground adjoining the Race Course, North of the Grand Stand Enclosure.

Terms:—Cash.

For Plan and Conditions of Sale, apply to:—

HUGHES & HOUGH.

Auctioneers to the Government.
 Hong Kong, 8th January, 1917.



Japanese Ship Found rs.

The Michi Maru, 2,010 tons, which left Wakamatsu with a full cargo of coal, came into collision with the Tsian Maru, of the Furukawa Steamship Co. Osaka, off Awaji Island on the evening of December 21 and foundered. Six of the crew are missing. Shipping and Engineering.

POST OFFICE.

MAIL NOTICE.

The Post Office issues the following notices:—

"Particulars of outgoing and incoming Mails will not be advertised in future. The Post Office will forward all correspondence posted by the fastest routes."

"Persons requiring special information must apply at the enquiry counter in the Public Hall of the G.P.O."

The rates of postage on letters to the Chinese Post Offices are now as follows:—
 To Canton, Fatsi, Chan Chuen and Whampoa—2 cents for 15 ounces.
 To other parts of China—4 cents for each ounce or fraction thereof.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects, in China, Siam, Liberia and Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Morocco cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

LOCAL AND REGULAR MAILS OUTWARD.

Tai O.—Week days, 5 p.m.
 Tai Po.—Week days, 10 a.m.; Sunday, 8.30 a.m.

Cheung Chow.—Week days, 5 p.m.
 Shatin, Shatin and Shing-bui.—Week days, 4 p.m.

Aberdeen, Au-tu, Ping Shan, Sai Kung, San-tai and San-tai.—Week days, 4.30 p.m.

Canton, S-mahul and Wuchow.—Week days, 7.30 a.m.; Register in 5 p.m.; Letters 6 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m.

Macao.—Week days, 7.15 a.m.; 1.30 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.

Kowloon.—Week days, 6 p.m. Except Saturdays; Sunday, 5 p.m.

Namtau and San-mei.—Week days, 5 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m.

Shamshun.—Week days, 10 a.m.; 4 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.

FROM SHEUNGWAN WAT-TURN
 HONGKONG P.O.

Macao.—Week days, 7.30 a.m.; 1.30 p.m.; Sunday, 8.30 a.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m.; 1.30 p.m.

Canton.—Week days, 7.30 a.m.; 9.30 p.m.; Sunday, 8.30 p.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m.; 9.30 p.m.

Tai Ping Tung.—Week days, 5.30 p.m.; Sunday, 5.30 p.m.; Holidays, 5.30 p.m.

Shik K.—Week days, 9.30 p.m.; Sunday, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.

Kowloon.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

Kumchuk.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

Kaukung.—Week days, 6 p.m. Except Saturdays; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.

Just arrived, Fresh assorted American Sweets & Fry's Chocolates.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Weather Report and Forecast for to-morrow will be found on a Second Extra.

On the 12th at 11.45—The anticyclone has moved eastwards and is now central in the vicinity of the Straits of Korea; pressure has consequently increased quickly over K. Japan and the Bonins, and decreased considerably over the coast of China and Annam. Slight decreases have also occurred over the Loo-choo and the Philip. lines.

The monsoon will be interrupted to the north of Fochow, but will continue to blow fresh along the southeast coast of China and over the north part of the China S. S.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.60 inch. Total since January 1st, 0.34 inches, against an average of 0.34 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON TO-MORROW:

District.	Forecast.
1 Hongkong to Gap Rock.	N.E. winds, fresh; fair.
2 Formosa Channel.	N.E. winds, strong.
3 South coast of China between H.K. and Lamooka.	The same as No. 1.
4 South coast of China between H.K. and Hainan.	The same as No. 1.

C. W. JEFFRIES, Chief Assistant, Hongkong Observatory, Jan. 12, 1917.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Previous	Day	On date	On date
Barometer	30.44	30.36	30.30
Temperature	56	54	61
Humidity	30	50	48
Wind Direction	WNW	E	E
Force	2	2	3
Weather	0	0	c
Rain	0.00	0.00	0.00
Highest open air temperature on the 12th	56	56	56
Lowest	44	44	44

H.K. Observatory, January 12, 1917.
 T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, by George William Cade Burnett at 11, Ice House Street, in the City of Victoria, Hongkong.

ENTERTAINMENTS

VICTORIA THEATRE.

FRIDAY, 12th JANUARY, 1917.

3rd and 4th Episodes (in 4 parts) of the

"IRON CLAW."

"THE COGNAC CASK." "The name and the Game."

Interesting:—

"ACROSS HINDUSTAN." (Colour)

PATHE'S BRITISH GAZETTE.

Comic:—

"BILLY STUDIES MUSIC."

"WHEN THE CLOCK WENT CLACKOO."

"PEANUTS and BULLETS." (Keystone)

Booking at ANDERSON'S.

BIJOU THEATRE.

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DR. ROWE.

HYPNOTIST, MAGICIAN, Etc. Etc.

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 Pictures—The Golden Beetle (1st see's)

& Keystone Comics.

HONGKONG THEATRE.

(OLD LAND OFFICE BUILDING).

COMMENCING SATURDAY, 13TH JANUARY, 1917.

1st and 2nd Episodes of

"MYSTERIES OF THE GRAND HOTEL."

A startling Detective Feature in 12 Episodes.

WEDNESDAY 17th January.—Continue further Episodes.

Comic Films will be shown.

ORCHESTRA IN ATTENDANCE.

BOLINDER'S CRUDE OIL ENGINES

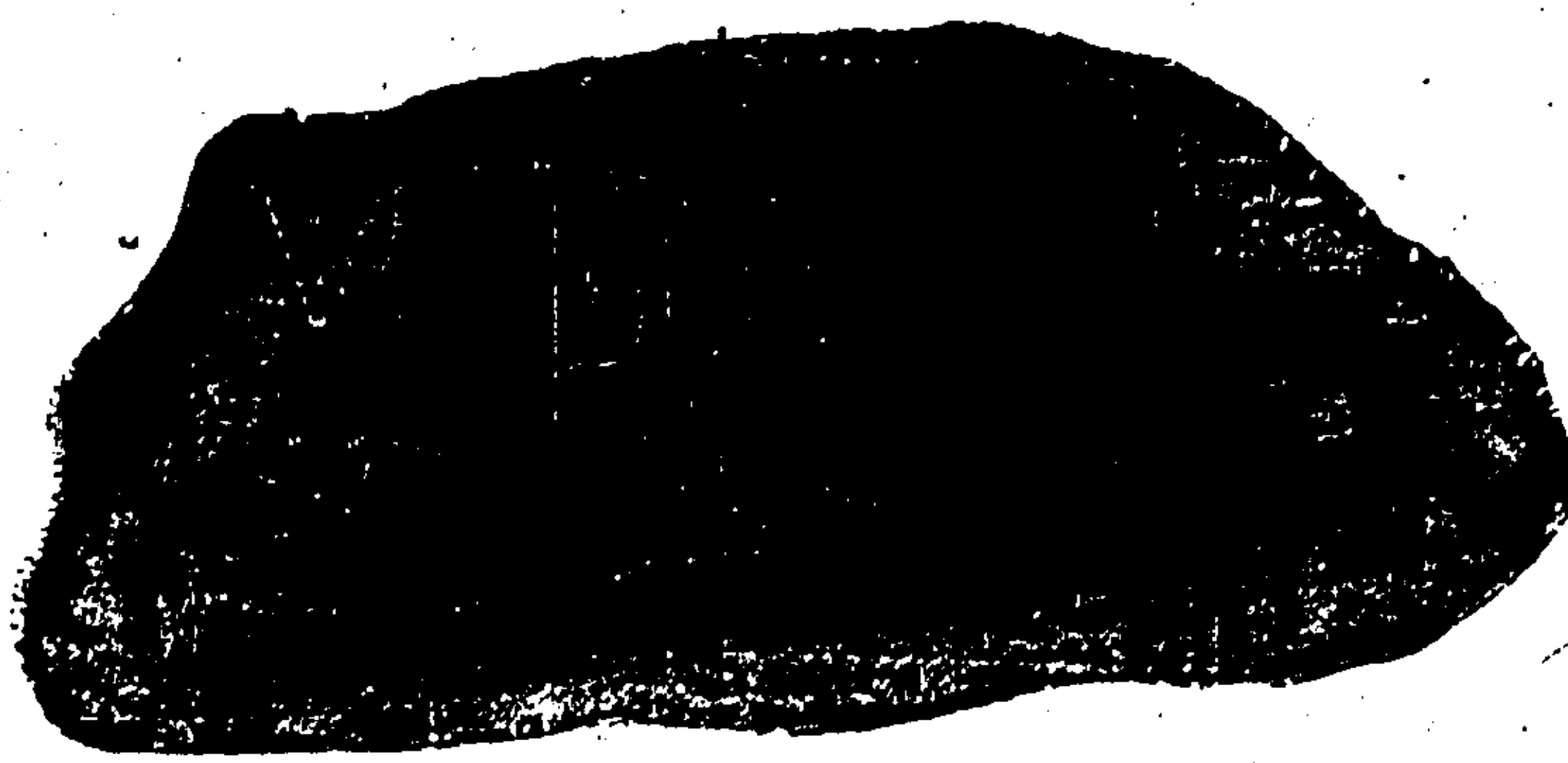
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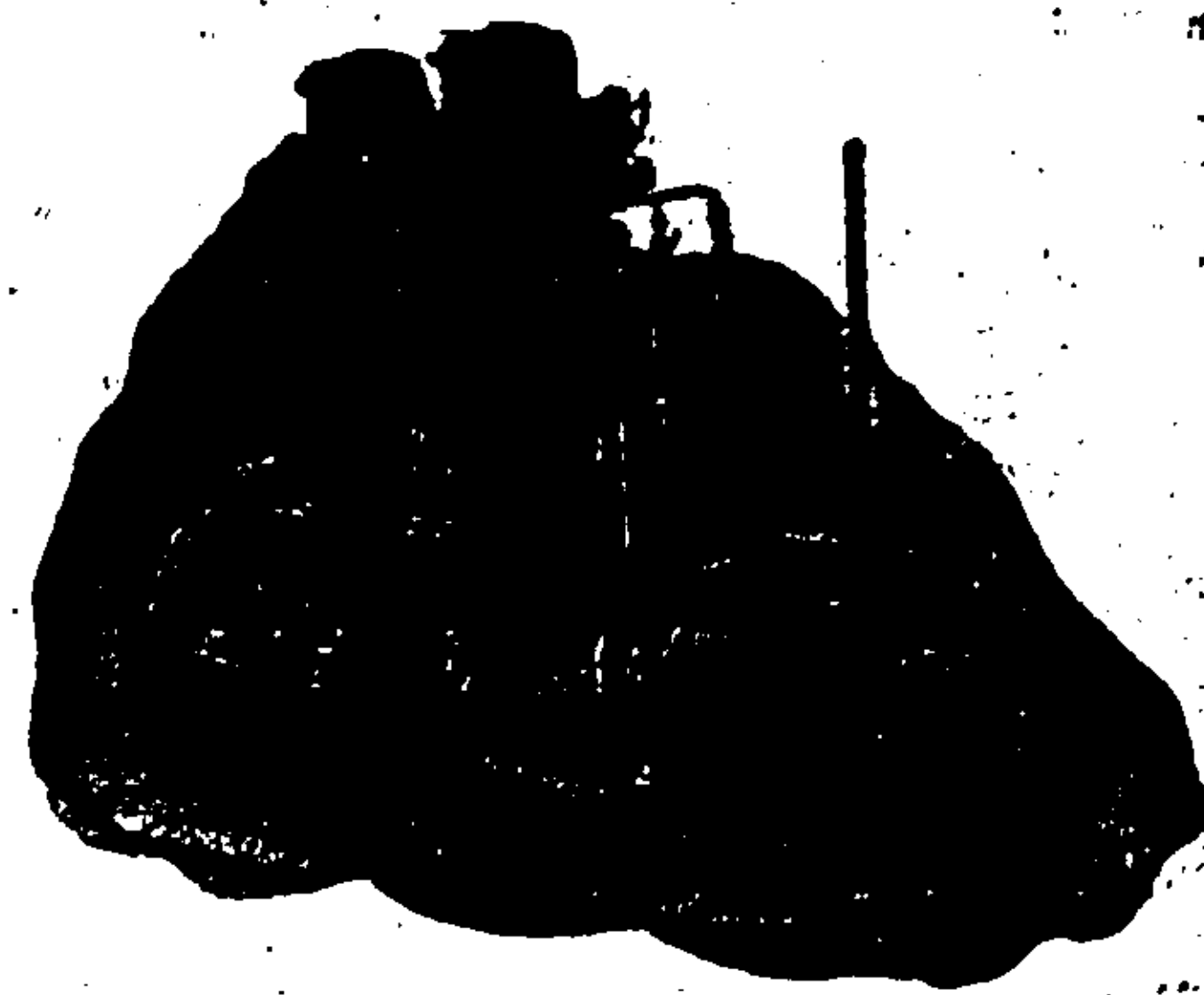
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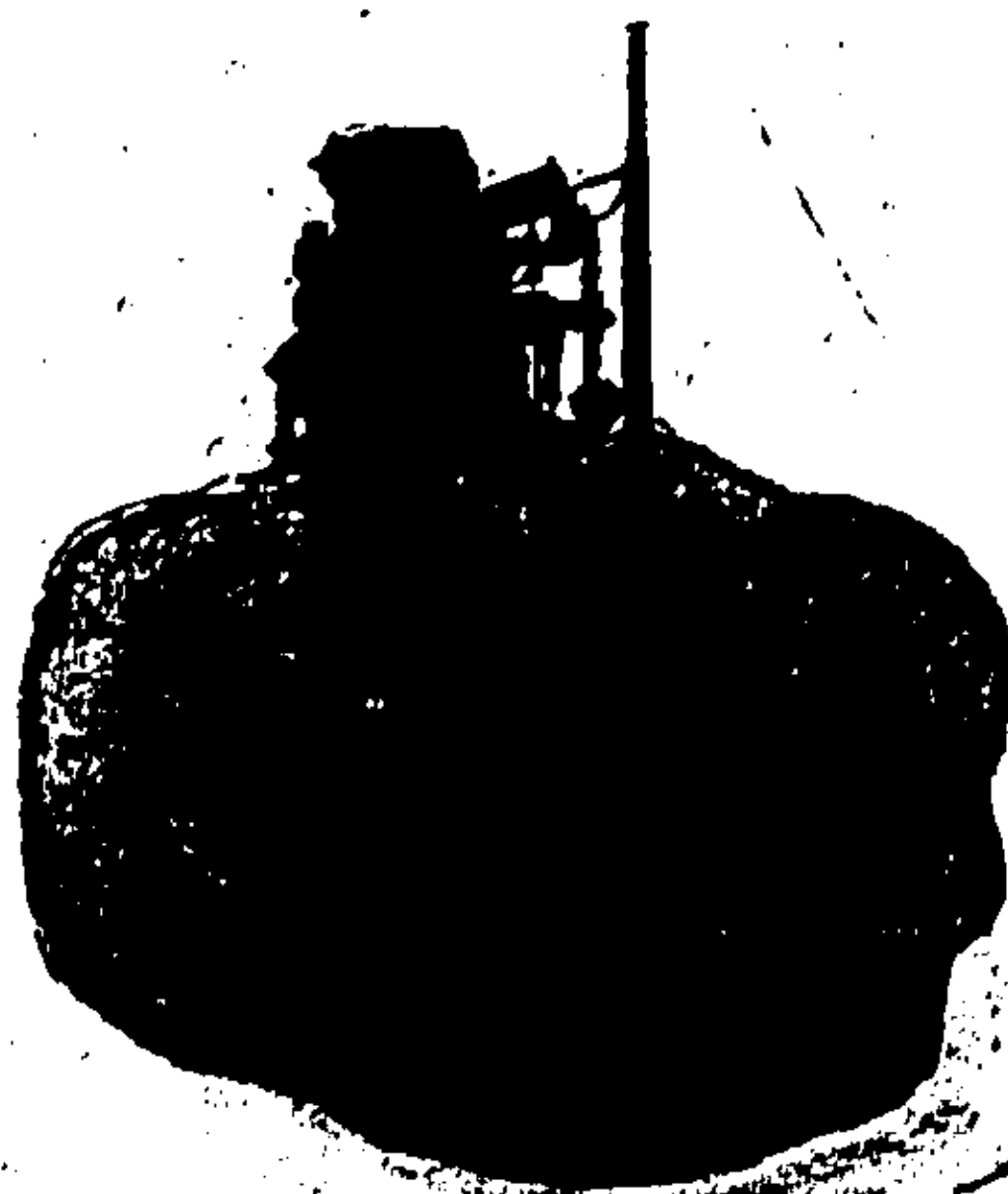
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